

Whips warn prime minister that cabinet is split 2 to 1 against going on to next ballot

Defiant Thatcher triggers revolt

First-round campaign manager dropped

By ROBIN OAKLEY AND PHILIP WEBSTER

MARGARET Thatcher left her cabinet in near revolt last night after declaring her determination to fight on for the party leadership in a manner they felt was handing the Tory crown to Michael Heseltine.

By denying Douglas Hurd and John Major their chance to run, Mrs Thatcher threw her party into turmoil. But she delighted her hard-core supporters by resisting the advice of senior party managers that she should step down to avoid an inevitable second-ballot defeat.

Angry ministers predicted last night that the votes for Mr Heseltine next Tuesday would include some from the cabinet. Within hours of the ballot result announcement on Tuesday night, a group of senior ministers including Chris Patten, William Waldegrave, Norman Lamont, Malcolm Rifkind and Tony Newton were meeting at the home of the foreign office minister, Tristan Garel-Jones, where they reached a consensus that Mrs Thatcher's position was no longer tenable. The five cabinet ministers there would have liked to see Douglas Hurd or John Major running in the second round.

Mrs Thatcher was seeing ministers individually last night to explain her decision to go on. It was suggested that she had been warned by the whips that the cabinet was split at least 2-1 against her going on. MPs who had supported her on the first ballot indicated that they would switch sides if she did not give them the opportunity to vote for a unity candidate.

Last night there were recriminations from the top to the bottom of the party, aimed both at her and her advisers.

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Mrs Thatcher was felt to have dealt ruthlessly with the other potential leadership candidates and with those tendering advice. MPs questioned whether the advice was as robustly delivered as it should have been and voiced sympathy with Mr Hurd and Mr Major, who have seen their chances swept away.

All the signs were yesterday morning that Mrs Thatcher's support was crumbling. Jim Rendon, the chief whip, is believed to have told her that there were doubts that she had the votes to beat Mr Heseltine in a straight fight in the second round. The executive of the backbench 1992 committee did not urge Mrs Thatcher to stand down, but it did call for a wider choice of candidates.

than Mrs Thatcher was permitting her party. A secret meeting of five cabinet ministers held on Tuesday night concluded that Mrs Thatcher was possibly terminally damaged and would do best to give way to another "stop-Heseltine" candidate.

Mrs Thatcher reacted characteristically by expressing her determination to fight all the way. She dropped her first-round campaign manager George Younger, the former defence secretary and gathered around her a team of old familiars: John Wakeham and Norman Tebbit, together with the No Turning Back group's representative in the cabinet, Peter Lilley. Mr Wakeham will be in command of strategy, while Mr Tebbit will be the front-man and run day-to-day operations in the Commons.

Mrs Thatcher was said by friends to be lashing out at all around her, blaming Mr Younger for a lacklustre first-round campaign and her PPS, Peter Morrison, for failing to keep her better informed. She was told to expect 230 votes in the first round rather than the 204 she achieved. She was said to be determined to go all the way and fight everyone and everything about her. At one stage she was said to have accused a cabinet minister yesterday of "lacking balls".

While some ministers admitted that there was something splendid about the prime minister's display of fighting instinct, there were fears that she could do herself damage to her party by setting on. Colleagues blamed her for the mistakes of the first round. She had fixed the timing for a moment when she would be away in Paris. She appeared to panic by labelling Mr Heseltine a Labour sympathiser when he had fought with cool dignity, and she angered ministers by appearing to offer a referendum on the issue of the single European currency without consulting them.

Mrs Thatcher was given a battery of warnings yesterday that she would be unable to hold the line. After a political lifetime of defying advice on such issues as the Falklands, the miners' strike, and Britain's contribution to the European budget, she has gambled on proving everyone wrong once again.

Mr Heseltine's team looked Continued on page 24, col 1



Heseltine: "needs 18 votes to win"



Cold shoulder: Malcolm Rifkind, said to favour Douglas Hurd, behind Mrs Thatcher in the Commons yesterday

Desert troops soldier on regardless

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN SAUDI ARABIA

AS NEWS of Margaret Thatcher's political difficulties spread like wildfire through the ranks of Britain's troops in the Saudi desert yesterday there was no sign of trouble with morale predicted by her loyal henchman, Tom King, the defence minister.

"Heseltine looks like winning. If he gets to be prime minister, we will get more money. He is a 'job' bloke," Snapper John Stokoe told his comrades in his armoured personnel carrier which was laying dummy anti-tank mines on an exercise.

The other soldiers responded in unison to his claim, using the word "job", which has emerged as regimental slang for "good" in the weeks that the 21st Royal Engineers Regiment has been working to construct bases for the troops and give them combat support. Many British soldiers first heard news of the Conservative party poll from British journalists.

"This is fairly hot news as far as we are concerned," explained Major Stephen Henley.

"If she gets binched, I do not think it will make much difference," said Corporal Stephen Auning. "We knew Heseltine's reputation when he was defence minister, and I do not think he will put us out from Saudi Arabia."

known that she was facing political death, nothing in her manner would have suggested it. Dressed in a mustard suit edged in black and plumed with a brooch shaped like a panther leaping, Mrs Thatcher's own expression was not unparaphrased. She looked as ready as ever to leap.

She delivered her statement like a robot, as usual, but sprang to life under hostile questioning, most notably from Tony Benn about war in the Gulf. Mrs Thatcher has never been comfortable dealing with the new "moderate" Labour party, and flew at this representative of the old, familiar enemy with practised passion. They would miss each other, if she had to go.

She may, and everyone knows it. The search is on for a new leader. We do not yet know the identity, but we already know the qualities. The Tory party is looking for Mrs Thasseltine.

Mrs Thasseltine will be soft on Europe, but hard on parliamentary

Gorbachev supports Bush on use of force

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

PRESIDENT Bush's Gulf campaign was doubly reinforced last night with increased support from President Mitterrand of France on the use of force and President Gorbachev's call for additional action by the United Nations Security Council.

Mr Bush will also meet President Assad of Syria in Geneva tomorrow on his way back from a tour of the Gulf region that began last night with his arrival in Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, 35 British hostages are expected to be allowed to leave Iraq today or later this week on an aircraft carrying between 85 and 100 Europeans of nine nationalities.

The first positive sign of renewed support for Mr Bush came when Mr Gorbachev

called for a meeting of the security council to discuss new ways of dealing with Iraq's occupation of Kuwait. Although refusing at this stage to express support for military action, he said it was time for the council to re-examine the "dangerous situation" in the Gulf.

Mr Gorbachev was speaking at the Soviet embassy in Paris after he and Eduard Shevardnadze, his foreign minister, had faced three days of intensive lobbying by the Americans and British to support a new UN resolution authorising the use of force. Mr Gorbachev said it was important to be "resolute and firm" and agreed that a decision should be made by the security council on what steps could next be taken.

More support for the

American position later came from M Mitterrand, Mr Bush's host here, who announced at a press conference that France was ready to take part in discussions to draw up a text authorising "eventual recourse to force" in the Gulf. However M Mitterrand added a warning: "As far as its actual implementation is concerned, this cannot be automatic."

As Mr Bush touched down in Jeddah at the beginning of his Middle East visit it was announced that, apart from his own meeting with Pres-

Continued on page 24, col 3

Le Pen success, page 11

Electricity share price set at 240p

By MARTIN WALLER

THE share price for the 12 regional electricity distribution companies in England and Wales will be 240p each, John Wakeham, the energy secretary, announced yesterday.

The price was in line with City forecasts. But there had been nervousness that the inconclusive result of the Tory leadership ballot on Tuesday could have been followed by a

stock market fall. When this failed to materialise, first dealings in the unofficial "grey market" made in the shares indicated investors could be looking at profits of £20 to £30 before dealing costs on their minimum first payment of £100 if current market conditions continued.

Price details, page 25
Comment, page 27

INSIDE

East and West sign charter

A NEW "Magna Carta" that underwrites the switch from hardline communism to democratic government across Eastern Europe was signed by 34 leaders at the Paris summit. The document they signed, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, was dubbed the new Magna Carta by Margaret Thatcher. Page 8

Nissan halt on cars for UK

Nissan has halted production of cars for the British market from its £650 million plant at Washington, Tyne and Wear, and switched to building left-hand drive cars for continental markets. The move follows the failure of the company's vital new mid-range model, the Primera, to take off after a dispute between the Japanese manufacturers and its retailer, Nissan UK. Page 4

Mozart record

A score by Mozart equalled the record for a single musical manuscript when it sold at Sotheby's in London for £880,000, while at Christie's a Stradivarius violin broke the record for any musical instrument, at £902,000. Page 5

Polish surprise

With only three days to polling day, Stanislaw Tymiński, a mysterious Polish-Canadian millionaire, has overtaken the prime minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, in the presidential election contest and is only a few points behind the front-runner, Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader. Page 9

Financier jailed

In an act widely seen as retribution for the excesses of the 1980s, a New York judge sentenced Michael Milken, creator of the "junk bond" market, to ten years' imprisonment for conspiring to flout securities and tax laws. Page 11

Dispute over

The long-running dispute which threatened the future of the Ryder Cup, the biennial golf match between Europe and the United States, has been settled. Page 40

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The highlights of a 36-hour drama

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The crucial moments in the leadership drama of the past 36 hours were:

6.30 pm Tuesday: Cranley Ouslow, chairman of the 1992 executive, tells Tory MPs: "Michael Heseltine 152, Margaret Thatcher 204. There were 16 spoilt papers."

8.30 am Wednesday: Tim Rendon, government chief whip, breakfasts with Lord Whitelaw.

10.45: Mr Rendon arrives in Downing Street to await Mrs Thatcher.

11 am: executive of 1992 committee meets in committee room 17 at the Commons. There is no clear outcome.

11.53: Mrs Thatcher arrives back at number 10 from Paris.

12.15: Norman Tebbit arrives, followed by Kenneth Baker, party chairman, John MacGregor, leader of the Commons, Mr Ouslow and John Wakeham, soon to be

appointed as the Conservatives' new campaign manager.

12.29: "Tarzan" cry echoes from large crowd outside Downing Street.

12.36: Denis Thatcher leaves Downing Street in Newmarket trolley, grey pin-stripe suit.

12.50: George Younger, prime minister's campaign organiser, leaves Downing Street.

2.30: John Wakeham leaves and gives thumbs-up sign.

2.54: Norman Tebbit leaves.

3.49: The prime minister leaves and declares: "I fight on."

3.58: Mrs Thatcher speaks in Commons.

5.30: Mrs Thatcher visits the tearoom.

6 pm: Mrs Thatcher at Buckingham Palace.

Sombre talks, page 2

POLITICAL SKETCH by Matthew Parris

Where is the perfect leader? Call for Mrs Thasseltine

One after the other they rose. Members of the party which beneath the cloak of anonymity and in the shadows of room 12 the evening before, had plunged in the knife, stood now in the light of the afternoon to congratulate their leader. With one voice they cheered her to the rafters as she entered the Chamber.

Quake, oh ye citizens of Gibraltar! Tremble, Ulstermen over the water! Despair, ye dispossessed Kuwaitis! The parliamentary Conservative party is loyal to your cause. The Tories will never desert you.

"Hear, hear, hear!" they belated, "hear, hear, hear, hear, hear!"

One hundred and fifty open mouths in round faces; one hundred and fifty expensive suits; three score waistcoats covering three score plump stomachs; gold watch-chains, gold tie pins, silk handkerchiefs billowing from top pockets... the Tory party was

marching behind its leader, every shiny shoe in step. It was a magnificent sight.

Of course "hear, hear" has a certain anonymity. If everyone else is lowering you can do it too, without personal commitment: no more than a cow in a field. "Hear, hear" is a noise, not an undertaking. "Hear, hear" is not contractually binding and does not constitute an offer. So there was no shortage of mooing and yelping and growling in Mrs Thatcher's support, yesterday.

Getting up to speak is rather different. You are all on your own, then. The Speaker has called your name, the cameras are on, reporters have pens poised, and your mates have all sat down. You have stood up, and you will be counted.

So when the prime minister had finished her statement, reporting the CSCE summit in Paris, ("hear, hear, hear"), what could be seen differed strangely from what could be heard. The usual crowd - the ones who always rise to her defence,

the place-men, job-seekers and fair-weather friends - sat motionless. How odd! These MPs have never before been noted for their reticence.

And in their place rose a small and eccentric platoon: the men still willing to be numbered in her company. It was fascinating to see who they were.

They are best not named, for there were some brave supporters, careless of their own advantage, but there were also fools, ignorant of danger, and creeps so injured to creeping that they have forgotten the purpose of sycophancy.

One by one they rose, each to tell her in his more or less adequate way that he was still on her side. It was touching. And yet... more depressing to Mrs Thatcher, even than the sneers of her enemies must be to observe the calibre of much of the band that still count themselves her friends.

For each, the prime minister had a word of gratitude. If we had not

known that she was facing political death, nothing in her manner would have suggested it. Dressed in a mustard suit edged in black and plumed with a brooch shaped like a panther leaping, Mrs Thatcher's own expression was not unparaphrased. She looked as ready as ever to leap.

She delivered her statement like a robot, as usual, but sprang to life under hostile questioning, most notably from Tony Benn about war in the Gulf. Mrs Thatcher has never been comfortable dealing with the new "moderate" Labour party, and flew at this representative of the old, familiar enemy with practised passion. They would miss each other, if she had to go.

She may, and everyone knows it. The search is on for a new leader. We do not yet know the identity, but we already know the qualities. The Tory party is looking for Mrs Thasseltine.

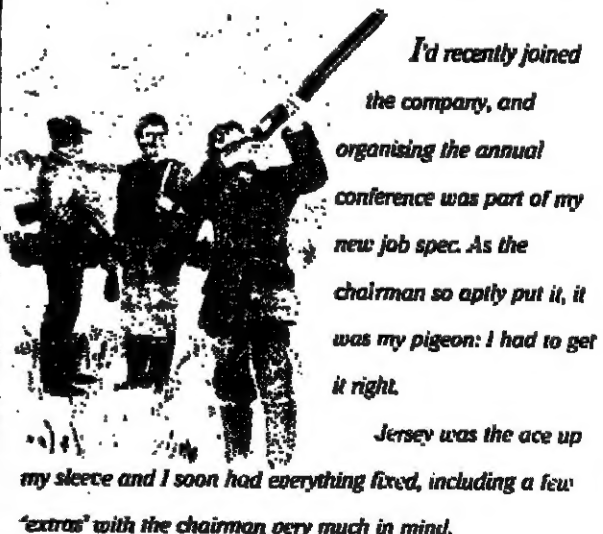
Mrs Thasseltine will be soft on Europe, but hard on parliamentary

sovereignty; sweet on industrial partnership, but sour on government spending; warm on inner-city initiatives but cold on quangos; high on rhetoric but low on taxes.

Mrs Thasseltine will abolish the poll tax without restoring the rates. Mrs Thasseltine will give every back-bencher a job. Mrs Thasseltine will not be Mr Heseltine. Mrs Thasseltine will not be Mrs Thatcher. Most important of all, Mrs Thasseltine will win the general election.

In the event that it prove otherwise, you may be sure that the next leader comes with neck already marked by an encircling dotted line in ballpoint pen: "Cut here."

Matthew Parris has won the London Press Club's Edgar Wallace Trophy as 1990's Outstanding Reporter of the Year. The Scoop of the Year award went to the Daily Mirror for their story claiming links between money from Libya and Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader.



"It's your pigeon" said the chairman "Just get it right."

One was a clay pigeon shoot and out on the range I thought a little encouragement might not go amiss. Just as he was about to call I had my chance: "Your pigeon chairman, I believe". The right move at the right time? Too early yet to tell, but the conference went well and the chairman is set on a Jersey holiday next year. So, it would seem, I did get it right.

Send for details to: Conference Director Jersey Conference Bureau, Weighbridge, St. Helier, Jersey, CZ. Tel: 0534 78000.

Jersey

A break, with convention

Sombre talks after the frenzied hours

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A COUPLE of hours after the frenzied announcement in the committee corridor of the Commons of the indecisive result of the Conservative leadership first ballot a group of senior ministers met in the home near Buckingham Palace of Tristan Garel-Jones, the Foreign Office minister of state.

Their mood was sombre. Back in the House MPs were running around like headless chickens, according to one of them. Many MPs who had voted for Margaret Thatcher in the first ballot were telling their colleagues, friends and whips that they would withdraw their backing if she stayed in the fight. Mrs Thatcher's sudden announcement in Paris, only minutes after the result, angered many of them. More than one cabinet minister expressed fury at her tactics.

In Mr Garel-Jones's house at Catherine Place were five cabinet ministers, Norman Lamont, William Waldegrave, Malcolm Rifkind, Chris Patten and Tony Newton, and a number of middle-ranking colleagues including John Patten and Alan Clark. The consensus reached by the heavy-weight group was that Mrs Thatcher was finished, her position no longer tenable.

The conclusion was that on her return to Downing Street yesterday lunchtime Mrs Thatcher would face so strong a barrage of advice to retire gracefully, some of it from her family, that even she would be forced to quit. The group went on to discuss the respective merits of the two most-touted cabinet unity candidates, John Major, the chancellor, and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary. According to those present the voting was marginally in favour of Mr Hurd.

They agreed to communicate to Tim Renton, the chief whip, their view that Mrs Thatcher should be persuaded to recant her Paris declaration. Mr Renton was getting the same message from other several MPs who had backed Mrs Thatcher in the first round and said they could no longer support her. One MP reported that he had told Mr Renton that he knew of 16 MPs who would switch votes unless she pulled out.

Earlier Mr Renton had break-



Caged Hawk: Security fencing in the foreground as the foreign secretary arrives at the back door of 10 Downing Street yesterday

fasted with Lord Whiteley who had declined to comment publicly on Mrs Thatcher's position, adding to speculation that she might be advised to go.

It appeared that Mrs Thatcher's vote was crumbling. The news was received with open fury by her Commons supporters who, fearing that the whips might be getting the wrong message, began a frantic lobbying exercise of their own. Events moved speedily.

10.45 am: Mr Renton arrives in Downing Street to await return from Paris of Mrs Thatcher.

11 am: In Commons committee room 17 the usually secretive 18-member executive of the 1922 committee under its chairman met officially to make the arrangements for the second ballot and to hold an inquiry into the chaotic scenes the night before when the ballot result reached the press well before most MPs.

That was soon over. The committee then had an hour-long

discussion of the prime minister's future which many MPs expected to end in the dispatch of the "men in grey suits" to Mrs Thatcher. But that was not the outcome and it may have been the turning point in yesterday's dramatic events.

The executive is split sharply on left-right lines, with some of Mrs Thatcher's fiercest and most loyal supporters such as Sir Marcus Fox, George Gardiner, Jim Pawsey and Sir Rhodes Boyson lined up in the right corner.

Any attempt to have reached agreement on a message to Mrs Thatcher to stand down would have been doomed to failure. One right-winger suggested that Mr Heseltine should be asked to withdraw in the interests of unity.

That idea was not taken too seriously and the executive reached a compromise. It was decided first that Mr Onslow should make no recommendation either to Mr Heseltine or Mrs Thatcher about the second ballot,

but second, and rather ambiguously, that Mrs Thatcher should be informed of the view of some MPs that there should be a wider choice of candidates.

Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, a vice-chairman of the 1922, went public and said that many Tory MPs would like to see a wider choice of candidates in the second ballot. "It would help to clear the air more than if it were left to the two to slug it out at the OK Corral next Tuesday."

Some members of the executive chose to interpret the message as a criticism of the electoral system; others to suggest that it was a veiled hint to Mrs Thatcher that she should withdraw to make way for Mr Major and Mr Hurd, who could not stand while she was in the field. A key member of the executive said later: "We were powerless."

Its position was slammed as a "cop-out" by Hurd and Major supporters. The pace quickened.

11.53: Mrs Thatcher, Bernard Ingham, her press secretary, and Peter Morrison, her PPS, arrive at Downing Street.

12.13: Norman Tebbit arrives. 12.17: John Wakeham, the energy secretary, arrives in a grey suit. Later he is to be announced as the new campaign manager.

12.50: George Younger, the former campaign manager, leaves. 1.13: The loyalist campaign gathers steam. Tony Favell, of the No Turning Back group, delivers message of support.

2.30: Mr Wakeham leaves and gives the thumbs-up sign.

2.50: Back in the Commons one of the Downing Street visitors declared: "She is likely to go on." A Heseltine supporter said: "It is the answer to all our prayers."

2.54: Mr Tebbit leaves Downing Street.

3.00: Another Downing Street visitor confirms that Mrs Thatcher will stand. "It was not a grey suits meeting," he declares.

3.09: Mrs Thatcher leaves for the Commons for her statement on the Paris summit. "I fight on. I fight to win," she tells reporters.

3.10: A unity candidate supporter, when told of Mrs Thatcher's words, declared: "She will be humiliated. She has put herself before the party."

3.30: Mrs Thatcher begins her Commons statement.

4.45: Mrs Thatcher leaves the Commons chamber after answering questions on her statement.

5.01 pm: Bernard Ingham arrives at 10 Downing Street.

5.10: Another mixed bouquet of flowers is delivered by a policeman.

5.30: Mrs Thatcher arrives at Buckingham Palace for routine weekly audience with the Queen.

6.05: Mrs Thatcher leaves the palace.

6.25: Jeffrey Archer arrives at 11 Downing Street. There is no answer and he is admitted to number 10.

The men well-suited for the silent world of political intrigue

By ALAN HAMILTON

RATHER a lot of men in grey suits came and went at Downing Street yesterday to greet the prime minister's return from Paris. Whatever malevolent influence those *eminentes grises* had on her, she declined to show it when she emerged shortly after three o'clock on her way to the Commons.

Discarding the fur-collared black coat she wore on her arrival from RAF Northolt shortly before noon, Mrs Thatcher appeared in a startling golden-brown two-piece woollen suit to announce: "I fight on. I fight to win." She even managed a facial gesture that lay midway between a smile and a baring of teeth.

She was surrounded by the grey suits of Peter Morrison, her parliamentary private secretary, and that of her chauffeur, Bernard Ingham, her press secretary, however, favoured blue.

Grey suits had been arriving all morning, among their occupants Tim Renton, the chief whip, John Wakeham, George Younger and Tony Favell. "I'm delivering a message, and you needn't ask what's in it," Mr Favell said. The others made no comment, no confirmation as to whether they really were offering the bottle of whisky and the service revolver.

Another occupant of a grey suit was Denis Thatcher, casting some doubt on the political significance of worried cloth. Mr Thatcher, however, sported a brown turtleneck and rolled umbrella, and looked as chipper as if he had just had a winner in the 2.30 at Newmarket.

At last, a blue suit. Norman Tebbit emerged and made for his car. Blue suits talk. What, he was asked, was the mood inside? "Blue-suited," he replied cryptically. Was the prime minister going to stay in the contest? "I think she's made that very plain." Blue suits talk, but not much.

Other comings and goings were, frankly, a lot more riveting. Policemen kept coming up from the gates to deliver bunches of flowers from well-wishers. A dry cleaners' van delivered an armful of suits, colour unknown. Then, most intriguingly, a van from the Crown Suppliers, the people who

do civil servants' hatstands, arrived and two workmen unloaded what appeared to be a large wooden crate wrapped up in a carpet. Surely they were not going to smuggle her out in a box, like that Nigerian diplomat at Stansted airport? No, the van driver disclosed his cargo as a lectern. Aha, some portentous statement to be read, perhaps.

Another van arrived, and collected a Fortnum and Mason carrier bag. Duty-free from Paris? Then a cardboard box labelled "Vins de Haut Poitou" was borne from the front door into a car; it was seen to contain, not fine wine, but four bottles of Beefeater gin.

Downing Street had all the atmosphere of a fortress with its iron gates and anti-terrorist ramp, intended to deter suicide bombers in stunner-bomb cars. There was no hint of suicide within.

After her Commons appearance, the prime minister went to her delayed audience with the Sovereign, another woman who has been told from time to time that she might step down in favour of a younger man. Back in Downing Street, it was clear that this year's abdication crisis would not be resolved quite yet.

Abstainers deny any conspiracy

BOTH the Thatcher and Heseltine camps like to add the 16 Conservative MPs who abstained in the first ballot to their own figures in analysing their chances next week (Sheila Gunn writes). But it emerged yesterday that there was no conspiracy, no collective bloc of MPs who chose not to take part in the vote for an agreed purpose.

Although MPs were understandably coy about admitting that they abstained, soundings among the likely candidates disclosed a mixture of MPs who were pledged by their associations not to support Michael Heseltine but could not bring themselves to back Margaret Thatcher and those who wanted a change of leader, but could not stomach Mr Heseltine.

Some abstainers are MPs who are to stand down at the next election and who felt they should leave the decision to those anxious to keep their seats.

One declared non-voter was Tim Raison, MP for Aylesbury and a former Tory minister, who wants Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, to succeed. Yesterday he predicted that it would be difficult for Mrs Thatcher to beat Mr Heseltine in the second round. Although he has not disclosed his voting intentions, his leanings are towards Heseltine if it remains a straight Thatcher-Heseltine fight.

While his bravery is not in doubt, his abilities as a political fixer have sometimes been questioned. When he was chief whip he worked closely and well with William Whitelaw. He was

Loyal lieutenant Wakeham to manage second campaign

By JAMIE DETTMER

JOHN Wakeham's appointment as the prime minister's campaign manager for the second round of the Conservative leadership contest surprised few Tory MPs, that is after they had got over the initial shock of George Younger's departure.

Mr Wakeham is one of Margaret Thatcher's most loyal lieutenants and has given her unwavering support. He remained firmly loyal even when he fell out of her favour for well over a year after his dismal performance on a phone-in television programme during the last general election.

There has always been a special bond between Mr Wakeham and Mrs Thatcher. He was a double victim in the 1984 Brighton bombing, losing his first wife and suffering appalling injuries himself. He fought for life for two months after being pulled from the wreckage of the Grand Hotel. It looked like his legs might have to be amputated. He still suffers from pain and last May acknowledged that he might have to retire at the next election for health reasons.

While his bravery is not in doubt, his abilities as a political fixer have sometimes been questioned. When he was chief whip he worked closely and well with William Whitelaw. He was

considered a brilliant chief whip, who could calm the most rebellious backbencher with a mixture of whisky, humour and threat. But he seemed unable during the 1987 election to cool the rivalry between Norman Tebbit and Lord Young of Graffham. Their rivalry nearly wrecked the Conservative campaign.

He was promoted to Leader of the House after the 1987 election. After about 18 months of being cold-shouldered by the prime minister, he found his way back into favour and was frequently



Wakeham: always had special bond with Thatcher

invited round for informal chats at Downing Street. As energy secretary he has shown much ingenuity in pushing through plans for electricity privatisation.

Mr Wakeham was born in 1932 in Godalming, Surrey, in a rented flat. His father was considered an eccentric man who trained as a civil engineer but ran his own garage business. Mr Wakeham left Charterhouse school at 17. His father believed that 10 years' schooling was enough and that he should get a job. He took up accountancy and was soon running a practice in Holland Park.

From there he went into business and with an initial capital of £300 built up several companies in the construction business. When he eventually entered Parliament there was a storm of protest from Labour MPs complaining about the fact that he held 62 company directorships.

Last May, Downing Street announced that Mr Wakeham was to be put in charge of co-ordinating the government's information machine. "Minister for Banana Skins," was how the tabloid press saw the appointment. Many Tory MPs believe that Lord Wakeham did the same job better. In fairness, though, Lord Whitelaw was battling on an easier wicket.

Heseltine makes a meteoric rise to star status

By LIN JENKINS

MICHAEL Heseltine acknowledged his first public roar of approval from the crowd gathered outside his office yesterday as he left for lunch with unabashed glee.

In a week since he first declared his leadership bid his daily movements had gone from being a purely private matter to being shadowed by the media to the extent yesterday that they attracted a large crowd of onlookers. If a week had made a difference, a day did even more. Where previously he was left to run the gauntlet of photographers and microphones alone, the Metropolitan Police had decided his ballot success entitled him to the protection of crash barriers and six policemen.

The undistinguished Victoria office of Haymarket Publishing now ranked on the tourist beat. Puzzled Americans gazed from their passing luxury coaches at the sharp-witted tour guides explained the significance of the pavement scene. Mr Heseltine's chauffeur-driven green Jaguar was even allowed to defy the double yellow line and hold up the traffic until Mr Heseltine felt ready to emerge before the public, this time not simply via the electronic media, but crowded around the door. Such was the treatment suitable for an heir apparent.

There were no words as he left, just a broad grin. Words could be left to others while the real battle was conducted in the hothouse atmosphere of Westminster.

Chancellor still backing Thatcher

JOHN Major, Chancellor of the Exchequer, reaffirmed his support for Mrs Thatcher in the leadership struggle in a short statement issued from his home at Great Stukley near Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, yesterday (John Shaw writes).

Mr Major, recovering from an operation to remove a wisdom tooth, remained indoors throughout the day, while reporters and television crews waited for a statement. Shortly before 4pm, the following message was sent out: "I seconded the prime minister's nomination as leader of the Conservative party on the first round and anticipate doing so on the second ballot. The prime minister will continue to have my full support in the future."

Grantham unmoved

Grantham, birthplace of the prime minister, appeared largely unperturbed yesterday by her leadership battle. The only obvious sign of the event was the departure for London of Philip Newton, the Grantham Conservative association chairman, to meet Douglas Hogg, the constituency MP. Mr Newton has said a straw poll of local Tory branches showed opinion running 3-1 against Mrs Thatcher and Michael Heseltine, with hopes of a third contender.

Bookmakers split

Bookmakers are divided on who will win the leadership race. William Hill has Michael Heseltine as the 11-8 favourite, reduced from 5-2, with Mrs Thatcher at even odds. Ladbrokes, however, put Mrs Thatcher at 2-1 on favourite after taking their biggest single bet so far of £20,000 on her to win, with Heseltine at 6-4. Coral has suspended betting until the candidates' list closes at noon today for the second ballot.

Even Mitterrand thaws slightly at what may be the final adieu

By MICHAEL BENYON
AND ALICE THOMSON

"GOODBYE-EE. Don't cry-ee. There's a silver lining in the sky-ee": you could almost hear Margaret Thatcher's fellow summiters humming mournfully as they bade her adieu.

President Mitterrand, making the rounds of the oval table to congratulate and thank his 33 guests at the closing ceremony, paused in front of Mrs Thatcher. An almost imperceptible trace of warmth passed over his mask-like face. He reached out and patted her elbow and said something encouraging. The cameras did not catch his words or her response.

Nothing in Mrs Thatcher's notorious determination has so

impressed the world's statesmen as her glacial self-control. There is, all acknowledge, steel in her backbone even if it is the steel of a blade between the shoulders.

President Bush, a man who mangles his emotions as painfully as his syntax, was almost at a loss for words when asked to describe the Versailles dinner. "To show up in the wake of a traumatic election process in itself showed her fibre and steel," he said.

The coup d'état was the talk of Paris. "Alors c'est fini, la dame de fer?" the newsmagazine asked reiterating the sentiments of many of the 33 guests. The question was the front-page preoccupation of the French papers. Nobody had taken the Westminster rumblings that

seriously, few knew who Michael Heseltine was. They do now: his face is on every television screen, jubilant in every newspaper.

European newspapers paid their final tributes to Mrs Thatcher yesterday convinced that she will soon be elevated to the Lords as "The Duchess of Grantham". Editorials said that the leadership battle spelt electoral doom for the Conservative party.

"Thatcher is about to fall either in the ballot next week or in the next parliamentary election," the Norwegian daily *Dagbladet* said. The Brussels daily *La Libre Belgique* agreed. Even if Mrs Thatcher won in the second ballot, it said, she would still be wounded and this time the injury seemed

fatal, electorally speaking.

The Italian press, although clearly accustomed to extravagant political intrigue, was baffled by the Tory party's calamities. Even to readers brought up on Machiavelli there was something bizarre about the present in-fighting which *La Stampa* noted could only help the Labour party. The Turin daily found it difficult to explain to its readers how the Tory party could be attacking the "most successful British prime minister since Churchill".

The Spanish press were equally intrigued. Devoting two pages to the challenge, *El Pais* said Mrs Thatcher would fight to the end. "It will be very difficult for the party apparatus to convince her

that she must avoid the risk of a new humiliation."

The conservative monarchist ABC assumed that the Iron Lady would win the second round but said that the damage had been done and the division of the party has been consummated. "It is at any rate a lesson in democracy."

In Denmark the Conservative newspaper *Bertingske Tidende* criticised the way the leadership contest was run and praised her.

The South African press also lamented what they see as Margaret Thatcher's demise. While grateful for her opposition to sanctions, they are worried by the opinion polls which suggest her party would fare better under Mr Heseltine.

The American press coverage reflects America's image of Mrs Thatcher as a woman of immense stature. Beneath headlines like "Maggie's rule wavers in Britannia," her sudden plight was front page news in all the newspapers. "The light is fading," *The Washington Post* said. Editorials bemoaned her Falklands victory with her stubborn hostility to Europe and unwillingness to listen, saying she had become "a tiresome scold". The exception was Wesley Pruden, a columnist with *The Washington Times*. His explanation for the coup against Mrs Thatcher? "A man can forgive a woman anything except having greater reserves of testosterone than he does."

UMBERTO ECO

ECO



Umberto Eco
Foucault's Pendulum/£6.99/Picador
From the author of 'The Name of the Rose', comes a thrilling exploration of occult powers, interwoven with modern scientific laws and computer wizardry. Foucault's Pendulum bridges the gap between intellectual and popular fiction.

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Nissan halts building of cars for UK as sales dive

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

NISSAN has halted production of cars for the British market from its £650 million plant at Washington, Tyne and Wear, and switched to building left-hand drive cars for continental markets.

The move follows the failure of the company's vital new mid-range model, the Primera, to take off after a dispute between the Japanese manufacturers and its retailer, Nissan UK, which has exclusive rights to sell Nissan cars in Britain.

Nissan UK, headed by Octav Botnar, says that 380 UK dealers will sell only 2,500 of the first batch of 6,700 Primers ordered for the last three months of the year.

That is thought to be well below the hopes of the Japanese, however, who were anticipating annual British sales of about 30,000 cars.

Sales are not improving while Nissan UK and executives from Nissan Motor Manufacturing, the Japanese-owned manufacturing business, argue over pricing, a dispute which has raged since the launch of the Primera in September. The situation has not been helped by a slump in the UK car market in which total sales are down by 12 per cent on last year.

Nissan UK says that Primera models sold in the UK are as much as £2,000 dearer than on the continent and more costly than its nearest rivals in the market-place, particularly the Vauxhall Cavalier, the market leader.

Nissan Motor's original plans to sell abroad half of its output from the showpiece factory at Washington were changed shortly after the launch when executives announced that sales to 21 export markets would be increased to 70 per cent of production.

The company said last night that the extra demand from Europe had forced the factory to move to assembly of left-hand-drive cars as well as some right-hand models for Eire and Malta.

A spokeswoman for Nissan Motor said: "In view of the situation in the UK market, and we are aware of the situation regarding stocks at the dealerships, we are not

surprised that the factory is not building right-hand-drive cars."

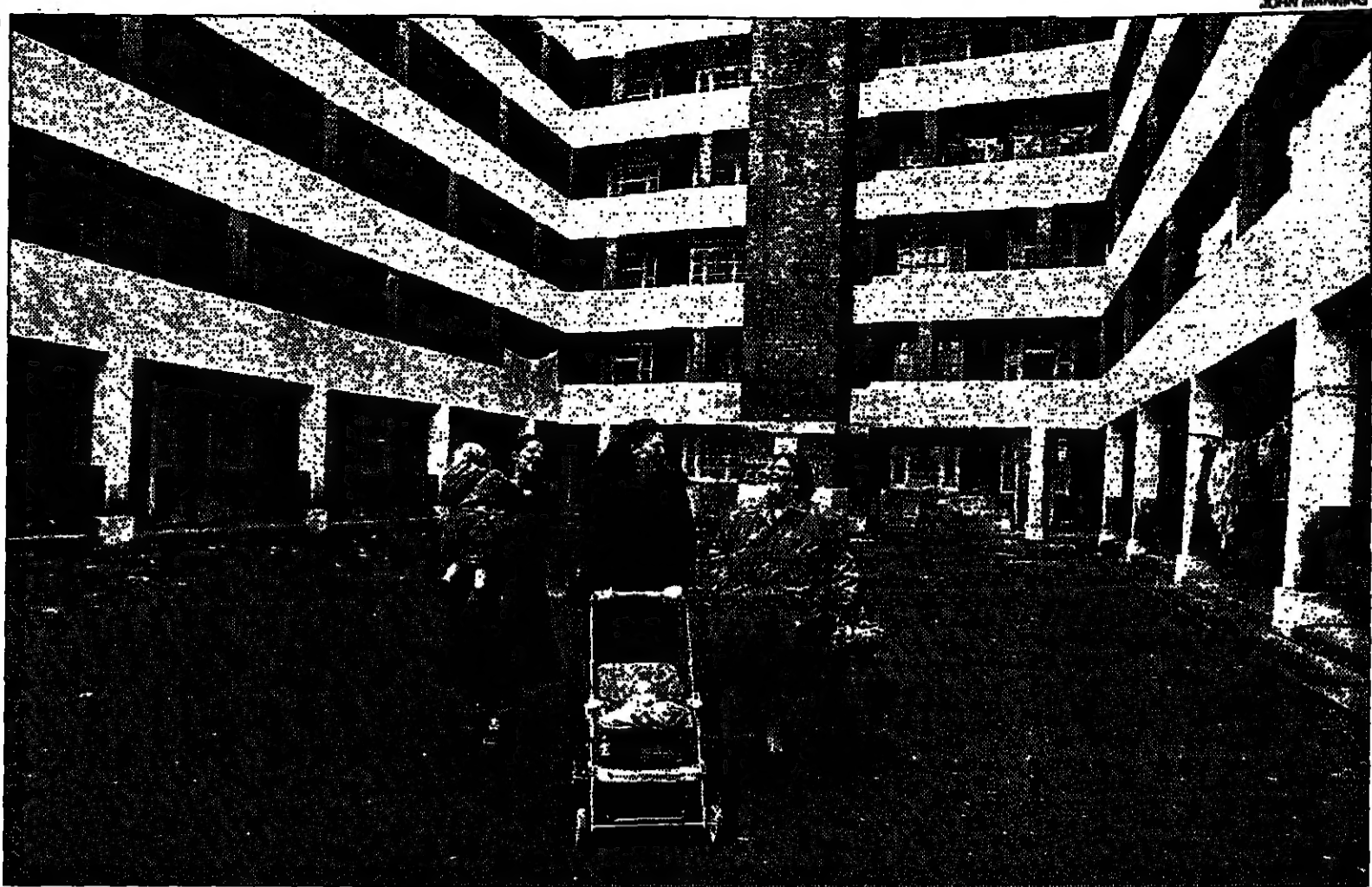
Nissan's move also reflects the difficulties of other major manufacturers in the UK who are being forced to cope with the deep recession in sales.

Rover is laying off 1,500 workers at Cowley, Oxfordshire, while Peugeot Talbot is cutting 350 jobs in Coventry. Jaguar is planning to halt output of about 2,000 cars worth £50 million over Christmas and cut up to 800 jobs.

Nissan will be anxious to step up sales of the Primera in Britain to ensure that assembly lines scheduled to turn out about 350 cars a day are not disrupted. The Primera is competing in one of the toughest segments of the market, against the top-selling Cavalier and Ford Sierra. Nissan dealers have been unable to make any impact against rivals, particularly in the vital area of company fleets.

Sales of 1,700 Primers so far this quarter compare with 11,331 Cavaliers and 8,055 Sierras in October alone. Nissan UK is, however, expected to order another 5,500 cars next year to try to fulfil sales expectations up to March, although negotiations over prices still continue.

A spokesman for Nissan UK said: "Clearly this has been a difficult time since sales have not gone well. We are sad the car has not sold well, but we are also sad it is £2,000 more expensive than it is on the continent and eight per cent more than a Cavalier. That is why negotiations go on."



Outdated ideal? The Page Street estate in Pimlico, central London, built on the condition that they should house only the working classes

Is 'working class' the passport to Pimlico?

By ROBIN YOUNG

MR JUSTICE Harman, the High Court judge who recently achieved some notoriety by enquiring "Who is Gazza?", turned his attention yesterday to the wider social problem of identifying the working classes.

The judge is hearing a chancery division case between Westminster city council and the Duke of Westminster concerning seven blocks of flats designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens on Millbank in Pimlico. The flats were built on land leased to the council by the duke on condition that the dwellings should be used to house only the working classes.

Westminster city council now wishes to offer flats for sale, and claims that the term "working classes" now has no meaning in society. John Colyer, QC, for the

council, told Mr Justice Harman: "As of today, the phrase 'dwellings for the working classes', whatever it meant in 1925 or 1937, has fallen out of the legislation."

The judge intervened: "I am sorry. I do not understand. This is a new concept. Can the working classes fall out in that way?" The judge said that the case must turn not on value judgments but on the "dry bare question of a construction of the lease."

Mr Colyer argued that the concept of the working classes had now been widened so far as to become meaningless. The phrase survived in housing legislation only because although the Rent Act 1977 had been repealed, one section of it referring to overcrowding had not been repealed insofar as it applied to tenancies that commenced

before April 1, 1986. Mr Colyer said the phrase "working class dwellings" in the original scheme for the improvement of the area agreed between Westminster council and the second Duke of Westminster, was qualitative in description. "They could have turned out to be occupied by peers of the realm," he suggested. Some of the families who were rehoused when the flats were built had not been deemed to belong to the working classes. They included licensees, one shopkeeper, and four artists, he said.

"Do you suppose if Mr Fortnum or Mr Mason as shopkeepers had been living there they would have qualified?" the judge asked. Mr Colyer replied that he thought that Mr Fortnum and Mr Mason would have been living in mansions comparable

to those occupied by the aristocracy, and the question would not have arisen.

Mr Colyer said that the land given by the duke in return for a peppercorn rent of one shilling had been worth an estimated £200,000 in 1937 and the duke had contributed £113,000 to building the new flats.

Mr Colyer said that he was not questioning that the second duke had made a very generous gesture, but it was humbling for the duke's representatives to suggest that it had been wholly altruistic. "It was good business," he said.

Mr Colyer went on to review definitions of the working classes used in past legislation.

The case continues today.

Leading article, page 13

Companies face wage bill rise

By TIM JONES
EMPLOYMENT AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR costs will represent a major problem for British companies over the next two years, forcing managers to focus on short term cost-cutting, according to a report published yesterday.

The survey, by the Henley Centre, warns that a drop in the number of school leavers and quality graduates will

force up wages. In spite of the recession the UK will continue to show marginal expansion although profits will shrink next year.

Over the next five years, Henley expects the economy to show strong growth and for company profits to come bouncing back. "In real terms we expect profits to grow by 12 per cent over the period 1990-1995. This will lead to a return to longer term visions and heavy investment in plant,

machinery and systems." Nearly all companies, however, will face problems from fewer young people entering the workforce.

Henley says this shortage will not be solved by other sources such as cutting women back from maternity leave earlier or by employing older staff. "Hence, wages will rise and it is possible that some vacancies will be difficult to fill, particularly in lower skilled areas."

Church study highlights rift over women bishops

THE first in-depth study of the role of bishops in the Anglican communion has highlighted irreconcilable divisions over the ordination of women priests and the possibility of women bishops.

A group appointed five years ago by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to examine the issue of women and the episcopate failed to reach any consensus on whether a woman may ever become a bishop.

Sheila Cameron, QC, Vice-Chancellor of Canterbury province and group chairman, writes in her preface to the 290-page report that heated exchanges took place. In the absence of any unanimity on ordination of women priests, it became apparent that there was no prospect of unanimity on women bishops.

The group, which began with 11 members was so split over women's ordination that it was unable to reach agreement on a paper written by one of its members, Dr George Carey, then principal of Trinity College, Bristol and now Archbishop of Canterbury-designate.

The paper, written at the request of the House of Bishops, which wanted comments from the group as a whole by June 1987, appears as part of an appendix to the report. Chancellor Cameron says the group was unable to agree upon the final content of Dr Carey's memorandum, even after three revisions. It is in the report under Dr Carey's name alone, although much of the final chapter on women in the episcopate reflects his arguments.

After five years of meetings and deliberations, the group itself failed to reach a consensus, although it is understood that the majority supported the ordination of women priests. In his paper, Dr Carey, a supporter of women priests, says that if a woman were to be consecrated bishop and her episcopate was not recognised by other bishops of her province or indeed by other provinces of the Anglican communion, the unity

of the communion would be greatly impaired. The non-recognition of the orders of women priests is already placing a strain on the unity of the Anglican communion, he says, and the non-recognition of bishops would be even more serious.

Not only would a woman bishop be unacceptable to provinces that had not taken this step, but the orders of male and female priests ordained by her would be put in question. Writing before two women were consecrated bishops, Dr Carey says the ordination of women bishops "would constitute a fundamental fracture" in the collegiality of the Anglican communion. He emphasises that the paper is essentially his work.

He points out that the traditional Anglican understanding of the way theology is done is placed under stress when radical changes in society or church "introduce factors which challenge our assumptions and received theology".

The report, *Episcopal Ministry*, was compiled by the Archbishop's Group on the Episcopate, appointed in 1985 by the two archbishops to examine the issue of

women and the episcopate. Six months later the terms were extended to cover the nature and function of the episcopate.

There is no guarantee that the issue of women bishops will become "live" in England this century; the results of debates in last week's general synod indicated that the 1992 debate on women priests, which will need a two-thirds majority in each of the three houses, could be narrowly lost in the House of Laity.

Two women were consecrated bishops after the group began its work: in the United States, Barbara Harris was consecrated assistant bishop in the diocese of Massachusetts in February last year and Dr Penelope Jamieson was consecrated and installed as the seventh Bishop of Dunedin, New Zealand, in June this year.

While the report offers no satisfying conclusion on the debate, and concedes that divisions in the group remained, it provides a historical basis and a summary of the issues which will help to determine the outcome of the 1992 debate.

The report notes, however, that the issue could also inhibit the rapprochement between the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches. The Vatican's response to the report of the first Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission is due soon.

In looking at the wider issue of episcopal ministry as a whole, the report argues for a reduction in the size of some dioceses by the creation of more dioceses, to reverse the trend towards a proliferation of suffragan bishops.

Episcopal Ministry (Church House Bookshop, 31 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BN, £10.50, £1.25 p&p)



Cameron: "Heated exchanges took place"

Minister approves £500m hospitals shake-up

By CRAIG SETON

A STRATEGY for the £500 million reorganisation of health care in Birmingham, envisaging the creation of four "super" medical centres and the closure of up to 14 outdated local hospitals, was approved yesterday by William Waldegrave, the health secretary.

Mr Waldegrave accepted the plan fewer than three weeks after taking over from Kenneth Clarke, who had faced criticism from Labour and Conservative MPs in Birmingham over the radical proposals.

The West Midlands regional health authority said its blueprint, *Building a Healthy Birmingham*, was designed to concentrate acute, specialist and other health services on four sites to serve the city's one million people. Such services are now provided at five general hospitals and ten single specialty hospitals, many of them outdated and costly to maintain. It was estimated that £500 million would be spent on new buildings over the next 16 years.

The plan is for the existing Queen Elizabeth and Selly Oak hospitals to be expanded as a new South Birmingham Medical Centre for acute services and as a regional specialty site for such services as liver and kidney transplants. East Birmingham and Dudley Road hospitals would be developed as medical centres for the east and west of the city. The Good Hope hospital, Sutton Coldfield, would be enlarged to become a new district general hospital for north Birmingham.

The proposals will mean the closure of city's children's, eye, accident and women's hospitals, whose services would be relocated to sites within the proposed medical centres.

Mr Waldegrave said last night: "The proposals are the right strategic framework for the substantial capital investment that Birmingham health services need and will get."

Jail rioting charges against 52

Nearly half the prisoners accused of rioting in April at the Pucklechurch remand centre, near Bristol, were charged yesterday. Fifty-two of the 125 prisoners are due to face magistrates in six separate hearings next month.

They face charges including rioting, arson, assaulting police and prison officers and violent disorder. The charges follow a seven-month enquiry by 12 Avon and Somerset police officers into the 18-hour disturbance. Police said: "More than 500 statements have been taken and further charges are likely in the near future."

Death award

The government is to increase the statutory level of bereavement damages which courts can award in fatal accident cases from £3,500 to £7,500, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, announced yesterday. The increase, the first since it was fixed in 1982, takes effect next April and will also apply to bereavement awards made under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme.

Brain project

An international project to investigate the causes of brain damage in babies was launched in London yesterday, to be funded by the Little Foundation, a new charity linked to the World Federation of Neurology. The aim is to find preventive remedies, so that babies can be born without mental handicap.

Health, page 18

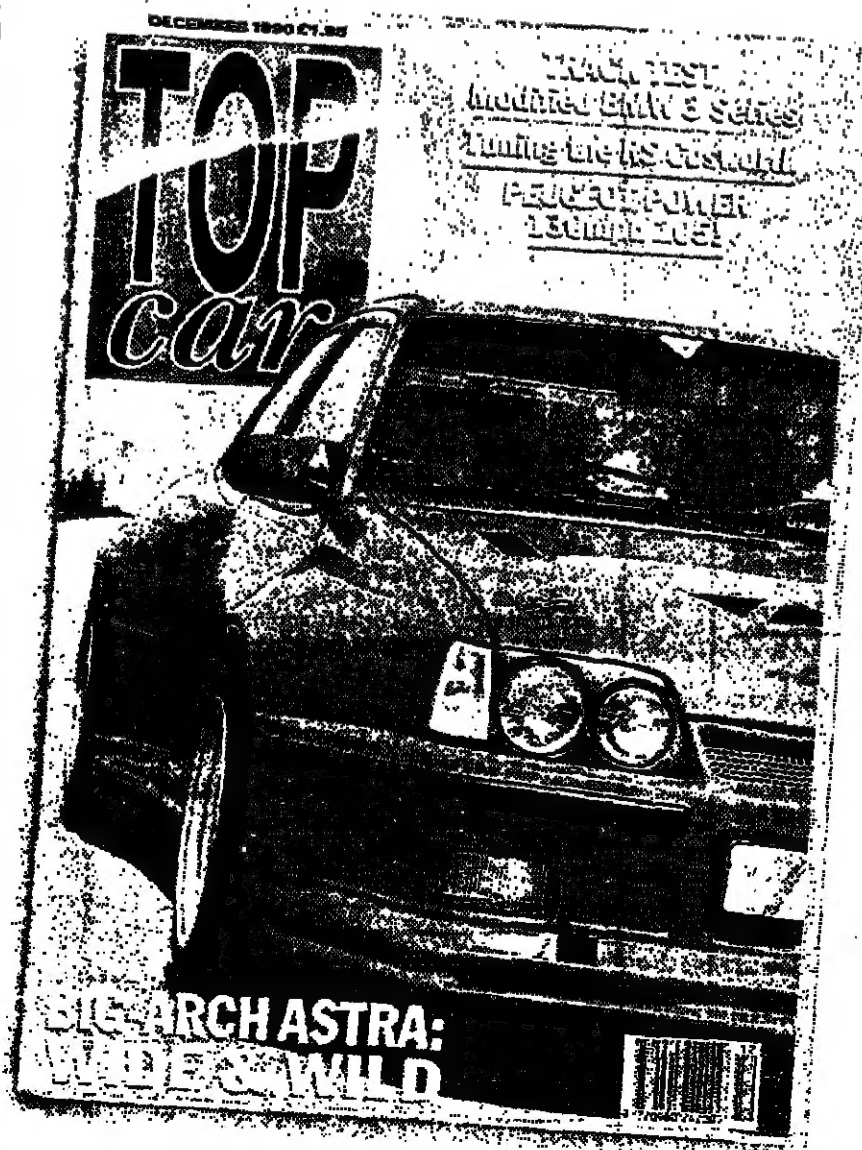
Error accepted

Leicester health authority yesterday accepted responsibility for a mistake by a senior doctor which has left a teenage girl on a ventilator. Donna Horn, who was receiving chemotherapy treatment for leukaemia at the Leicester Royal Infirmary, was mistakenly given an injection in her spine, rather than a vein. The authority said it did not know if the girl's family would be suing for compensation.

Butterfly plea

A major campaign is launched today to save Britain's dwindling butterfly population and to establish a nationwide chain of sanctuaries. Operation Butterfly, backed by a pharmaceutical company's grant of £300,000 over three years, is spearheaded by Butterfly Conservation, which has 4,000 members nationwide. One of the aims is to reintroduce some species threatened with extinction.

PAGE AFTER PAGE OF PURE ADRENALIN.



Although today's cars may all look the same, they don't have to stay the same.

A quick flick through new *Top Car* magazine will show you how some of the world's finest cars can be body-styled and engine-tuned into machines you'd give your right arm for (without it costing an arm and a leg).

Take a look at a few examples from the second issue.

PAGE ASTRA-NOMIC

42 The widest Astra in the world - latest body styling from Germany for Vauxhall's hot-hatch Astra.

PAGE BAVARIAN MOTOR

25 WORKOUT Track test of six 8-series BMWs fitted with monster 3.5 litre engines.

PAGE FRENCH MUSTARD

52 Report on the Peugeot 205 hatchback that's been turbo boosted to 130mph.

2ND ISSUE OUT NOW

PAGE ROWDY AUDI

72 on the famous Audi 5-cylinder engine - plus wild tuning and paintwork.

PAGE MORE NIP

96 for the Honda Civic - uprated engine and modified suspension.

PAGE BACK TO REALITY

10 After the lookalike Lotus Carlton, now a look at the real thing. How do they compare?

PAGE RETURN TO ZENDER

64 Part two of the £3,000-worth of Zender bodystyling competition (you can win even if you missed the first part).

LEAVES OTHER CAR MAGAZINES STANDING

Work on nuclear bunkers stopped as Cold War eases

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

WITH the Cold War officially pronounced dead, the Home Office has imposed a freeze on the construction of nuclear bunkers and other big civil defence projects, it was disclosed yesterday.

The moratorium has been described as a holding measure by the Home Office which is reviewing the future of civil defence in the light of the significantly altered East-West diplomatic climate. But the chances of it being lifted are seen as remote.

It is understood the Treasury wants to prune sharply the government's £80 million a year civil defence programme, which employs about 700 people. With the super powers agreed on sweeping reductions in nuclear and conventional weapons and the Warsaw Pact due to be dissolved by 1992, Treasury ministers regard the budget as overblown.

The Home Office, which began its review last month,

believes cuts in civil defence are inevitable but thinks some of the savings should be diverted into expanding planning for civil emergencies. Officials believe disasters such as the sinking of the *Herald of Free Enterprise* in March 1987 and the fire at Bradford football ground in May 1985 underline the need for better contingency planning.

A Home Office circular issued to local authorities a week ago says the moratorium, to take effect immediately, will remain "at least until the outcome of the review is known". Plans for over a dozen nuclear bunkers, or emergency centres as they are formally known, are affected, along with related projects for ventilation and communications systems.

David Moses, president of the County Emergency Planning Officers' Society, said yesterday that any civil defence cuts should be matched by an increase in funding for

civil emergency planning. "My main concern is that the pressure for some form of peace dividend may lead to adjustments being influenced more by the desire to make savings than by operational requirements."

The moratorium was welcomed by Labour-run authorities. "We have been telling the public from nuclear war is utterly implausible and a waste of money," says Roger, of the Greater Manchester Fire and Civil Defence Authority, said.

Mr Rogers, chairman of the authority's emergency planning committee, said the government's refusal to support local authorities in peace-time disaster planning was "scandalous". "I am allowed to use Old Trafford (Manchester United's stadium) as a mass burial ground for victims of a nuclear attack, but I am barred from planning how to mitigate the impact of a Hillsborough-style disaster. It is ridiculous."

Councils, he said, only had a statutory duty to plan for war-time disasters.

News of the moratorium came as police, fire services and councils throughout the North-east began a three-day desk-top exercise designed to test how they would respond to a full-scale international incident that threatened nuclear war. The "planning scenario" set by the Home Office is vaguer than normal and planners have been told not to denote opposing military forces on wall-charts by blue and orange symbols normally used to distinguish Nato from Warsaw Pact units.

Duncan Harvey, emergency planning officer for North Yorkshire, speaking from the bunker beneath the county council's headquarters in Northallerton, said his team was reacting well. "Overnight the government has introduced food rationing, put public transport on a war footing and informed the regional construction controller that he can start requisitioning plant and machinery. We hope to start issuing ration documents tomorrow."

Score by Mozart fetches record £880,000

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

A SCORE by Mozart yesterday equalled the record for a single musical manuscript when it sold at Sotheby's in London for £880,000, while at Christie's a Stradivarius violin broke the record for any musical instrument, at £902,000.

A note of alarm sounded, however, when Sotheby's withdrew three violins from today's sale because of fears that they were not genuine.

The manuscript record was broken by Mozart's *Fantasia in C Minor* (K457) and *Sonata in C Minor* (K457) which sold to the London dealer Otto Haas. He had already bought the previous record-breaking manuscript, Schumann's piano concerto, at Sotheby's last November. Yesterday's purchase, he said, will go to a public library in Austria.

The 14-page manuscript, written in brown ink, was uncovered last July at the Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. Although the fantasia and sonata have been favourites in the repertoire of great pianists since Mozart's time, their original manuscript had been lost since the early 19th century.

The seminary decided to sell to "better serve the intention of the donor, Marguerite Doane, to support the overall mission of the seminary."

The "Mendelssohn" violin auctioned yesterday had doubled its estimate to £902,000, selling to an agent who quickly slipped away, avoiding ambush by the press. Christie's expert Frances Gillam said it deserved that price and that it was likely to be heard in the



Top score: Stephen Roe, director of Sotheby's manuscript department, with the £880,000 Mozart score

near future, implying that it has been bought for a player. The rumour in the room was that the bidder was an American who was representing a Japanese.

Dating from around 1720, during Stradivari's "golden period", the violin once belonged to the Mendelssohn family of Berlin bankers and has not been seen on the market for 35 years. The proceeds will benefit the United Jewish Appeal/Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

The previous record for a violin was £572,000 and for a musical instrument, £682,000 — paid for a Stradivari cello at Sotheby's in June, 1988. The musical world now awaits the fortunes of Sotheby's Stradivari, offered today with an estimate of £1 million.

Meanwhile, Sotheby's announced its withdrawal of three violins from today's sale. The violins, all catalogued as being made by Pollastri of Bologna and priced at between £5,000 and £8,000, are believed by the London dealer Ben Carpenter to be examples of fakes

circulating in Britain. When first informed of the doubts, Sotheby's expert Graham Wells said that because of the fear of fakes, "the market in Pollastri has been killed, whether the instruments are right or wrong."

He said two of the violins "look absolutely okay". As for the third, catalogued as "a violin, possibly by Gaetano Pollastri," he said: "We ourselves are not happy with that one. That is why we have catalogued it as 'possibly by'." The certificate bearing the maker's name "may or may not belong to that instrument".

Sotheby's said later that the instruments had been withdrawn while experts "seek other opinions."

□ Ava Gardner fans bid enthusiastically on the contents of the film star's London flat at Sotheby's yesterday. One paid £37,400 (estimate £12,000 to £18,000) for an elegant Louis XVI mahogany table. An embroidered matador cape, emblazoned with a medallion of the Virgin Mary sold for £2,420, or ten times its estimate.

Press plea fails in vicar's hearing

By PAUL WILKINSON

AN APPLICATION by two newspaper groups for evidence from two women against a vicar accused of adultery to be given in open court was rejected by the trial judge yesterday.

Heather Rogers, counsel for News Group Newspapers, publisher of *The Sun*, and United Newspapers, publisher of the *Daily Star* and *Daily Express*, maintained that a ban imposed at Chichester Diocese Consistory Court on Tuesday was not in the interests of justice.

"The proceedings must be conducted in open court to maintain confidence in the administration of justice and provide a safeguard against judicial arbitrariness."

"The difficulty about having part of the proceedings reported is that it will tend to foster rumour and speculation, no matter what the

eventual finding may be," she said.

The diocese chancellor, Judge Quentin Edwards, QC, who ordered the evidence to be taken in camera, said he believed the women might not be able to go into embarrassing details. He was told they cried when giving evidence in an earlier private hearing.

He said: "It would not be possible for these witnesses to give their evidence fully and frankly and deal with extensive cross-examination as there must be in a case of this kind unless they have the protection of giving evidence in the absence of the press and the public."

In the case, which continues today, the Rev Tom Tyler, vicar of Henfield, West Sussex, has denied conduct unbecoming a clerk in holy orders by committing adultery with the two women.

News of the moratorium came as police, fire services and councils throughout the North-east began a three-day desk-top exercise designed to test how they would respond to a full-scale international incident that threatened nuclear war. The "planning scenario" set by the Home Office is vaguer than normal and planners have been told not to denote opposing military forces on wall-charts by blue and orange symbols normally used to distinguish Nato from Warsaw Pact units.

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Big rise in science spending called for 'to repair neglect'

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

SAVE British Science, the pressure group, yesterday made an appeal for a big increase in science spending, which was immediately ruled out by the government. At a meeting organised by the group, however, Alan Howarth, a junior education minister, denied claims that research and development in Britain had languished under this government.

Mr Howarth was responding to a report from the group entitled *British Science: Benchmarks for the Year 2000*, which said that British science needs an immediate infusion of £1 billion, and an extra £3 billion a year by 1995

to restore its competitive standing and repair years of neglect that has left Britain far behind other European countries in research and development spending.

Apart from Turkey, Britain was the only industrial country that ended the 1980s spending less on research and development as a proportion of its gross domestic product (GDP) than it had at the start of the decade. The group said: "Extreme efforts are now called for if we are ever to catch up."

Mr Howarth said, however, that spending on science had risen in real terms by 23 per cent since 1979. "This government has an excellent record of supporting civil science," he said. "If we adopted the same kind of target for the many admirable priorities competing for government support we could spend our national wealth many times over."

Nor did he accept that science spending should be measured against a higher rate of inflation than other activities. "A number of lobbies in different fields make the same plea to us. I am sure you will

recognise that the government would pretty rapidly lose control over the public finances if we conceded this."

The report said that a full-time science minister should be appointed, and that total spending on science should rise from 1.7 per cent of gross domestic product to 2.3 per cent by 1995, and at least 2.7 per cent by 2000. That would mean an additional £3 billion a year by 1995, and £5 billion by 2000.

Of this, the government share in 1995 should rise to a figure equal to 0.8 per cent of GDP, against the present figure of 0.55 per cent. That would be a rise of £1.3 billion a year, and more than restore the position in 1981, when government science spending was 0.72 per cent of GDP.

Industry would have to produce an even bigger increase, doubling spending levels to produce an extra £3.7 billion a year by 2000, the group said.

□ The Food and Agriculture Research Council said yesterday that it expected to lose 380 posts this year because of inflation and a drop in government research contracts.

Hands off, Patten warns EC

THE European Commission should stay out of some parts of British environmental policy-making, Chris Patten, the environment secretary, told MPs yesterday (Michael McCarthy writes).

Giving evidence about his recent environment white paper to the House of Commons environment select committee, Mr Patten ridiculed recent attempts by Brussels to ban, under the EC birds directive, the shooting by British farmers of birds such as crows and magpies that are regarded as pest species.

"We do not need any lectures about how to preserve wildlife, and yet to comply we would have to treat crows and magpies as though they were game birds," he said. Britain had as good a system of wildlife and habitat protection as any European country, Mr Patten said. "I spent part of my summer holiday in a Community country where one thing you never do is hear birds sing."

Rittner is picked for world fair

LUKE Rittner, the former secretary general of the Arts Council, is to be Britain's cultural director at Expo 92, the world's fair due to open in Seville in April 1992. (Simon Tait writes).

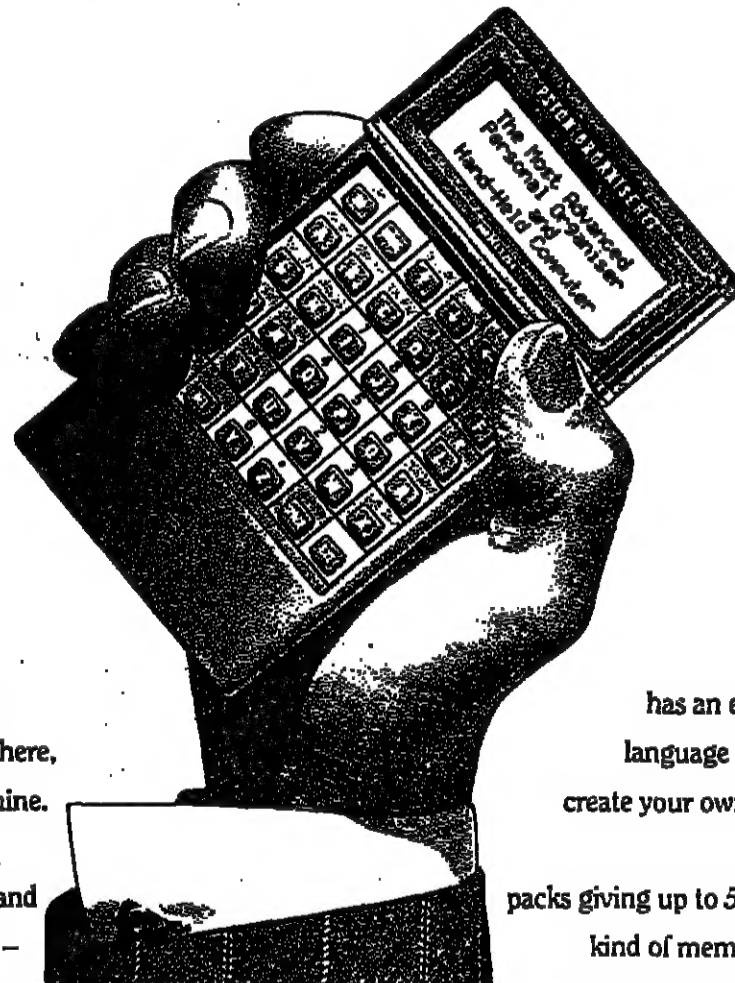
The part-time appointment is to be announced by Tim Sainsbury, the trade minister, today.

Spain is spending £4.6 billion on the six-month long event. The British government has committed £25 million to the fair, a large proportion for the arts. Sponsors have promised a further £3 million.

The Royal Ballet, English National Ballet and the London Symphony Orchestra are expected to perform there and Mr Rittner wants to attract rock bands and street performers for the programme he is to devise entitled "Original Britain".

"Performers will have a unique opportunity to appear at the last world's fair of the century and the first in Europe for over 30 years," he said.

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Saturday Review

A nightmare at the Opera?

From cleaners at £127 a week to Pavarotti at £10,000 a night, the Royal Opera House spends a fortune. Is it justified? John Higgins examined the books

Kidnapped by his own plot

Alan Franks finds travel writer Jonathan Raban settled in Seattle and reflecting on the book whose plot took him over



Comics, but seriously

Zap! and kerpowl! are vanishing as comics get into serious issues. Our weekly magazine for young readers finds out why

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Anderton in rift with his police over work hours

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A MOVE by James Anderton, chief constable of Greater Manchester, to reform police working hours has put him at odds with hundreds of his officers.

After 15 years he is ending a system in which some officers start at 6am and others at 7am. From January all will start at the later time.

Mr Anderton said the single starting hour was a healthier, more civilised time which was helpful when sending reinforcements to other forces. Officers replied that they preferred to finish earlier and wanted no change. Mr Anderton went ahead with the change.

His move is a small victory for rationalisation. Restrictive shift patterns and expensive, over-protected rest-day schemes prevent the efficient deployment of manpower.

Police regulations lay down an eight-hour working day and since 1910 police coverage has been organised in three equally manned shifts over 24 hours. Officers alternate weekly between working 6am to 2pm; 2pm to 10pm or 10pm to 6am. Critics say the system bears no relation to workloads.

Research shows that 26 forces are still using the traditional shift system, although many are looking at alternatives. At least five forces have varied their shifts and seven will run experiments next year.

The most important will examine the "Ottawa system" developed in Canada and already on trial in Hampshire. Instead of eight-hour shifts the officers could work a 10-hour shift, with longer blocks of rest days after night shifts.

The Ottawa system means that unexpected overtime is cut and planned overtime can be used for specific projects.

Junior officers do not dispute that shift patterns should change and the Police Federation, pushed by the rank-and-file officers it represents, has agreed to test different systems. However, changes in rest-day rules could be fought hard.

They are seen as protecting officers who need a guaranteed break in a system of varied day and night working. A federation official said: "It only needs to be an expensive system if you don't plan properly."

The federation has decided, however, to make it cost even more. It seeks increased holidays, a reduced working week and higher rates for working rest days.

This has been rejected by the Home Office and local authorities who pay the bills. They want a working party to review all working practices. The police are going to arbitration.

Forces' style is far from uniform

SCOTLAND Yard's new anorak is said to be the ultimate in police wear for the 1990s (Stewart Tandler writes). After careful research the coat has been designed in breathing, waterproof material and equipped with plentiful pockets. Although it could soon be available throughout Britain, national distribution of the coat seems unlikely.

For the Metropolitan Police's anorak could become another victim in a long struggle to achieve greater standardisation of police equipment. On one side stand police authorities and forces dedicated to maintaining their individuality by spending money on uniforms, cars and other equipment as they see fit. On the other side are the Home Office, the Audit Commission and senior officers who believe big savings can be made.

The traditionalists say that individual choice means special local requirements are met, local industry gets a helping hand from contracts and the savings are too small to justify the management skills. The evidence for reform lies in documents such as a report by chief constables into the possible standardisation of basic uniform for up to 160,000 personnel ranging from officers to traffic wardens. The paper, produced in 1988, reveals a picture of extravagance and inefficiency that would make most commercial managers blush.

The ordinary member of the public might assume one police officer looks much the same as the next. The report showed that the 43 forces used eleven types of cloth and 18 shades of blue. The police had more designs for shirts than Marks & Spencer. The report found that prices varied by 60 per cent for trousers from £12.33 to £19.78 and by 45 per cent for jackets from £29.83 to £42.97. Forces still honoured regulations requiring some items of uniform to be changed annually regardless of whether or not they were worn out.

There were also variations in helmets, some of which failed standard safety requirements. Forces which repeated orders for their own uniform styles, based on a specification set years before, often paid high prices because makers had to return to old working



Undercover operation: the London coat may not fit other forces so well

practices. One force continued to place orders for a cloth that was no longer made and ties for another force were found, by accident, to be an inch shorter than agreed in the contract, much to the benefit of the maker.

The Audit Commission drew up its criticisms in a private paper for local government auditors last year. Estimating that it could cost £350 to kit out a new officer and £75 a year to replace the clothes of an established officer, the commission found one force needed four A4 pages for its shirts specifica-

tion. The chief constables have now agreed to divide the country into seven regions, each of which would have an agreed basic uniform. The forces would have to choose between four types of cloth and there would be only one shade of blue. Purchasing systems would be overhauled and efforts would be made to replace the seven regional uniforms with one design.

Work has been halted on any further change, however, so what is to become of the London anorak? Nobody can force a chief constable to accept it.

Labour exploits Tory troubles in by-elections

By KERRY GILL

THE Conservative party had been brought to its present state of shambles by the Labour party's success in winning support over the last few years, Donald Dewar, the opposition's Scottish affairs spokesman, said yesterday during the Paisley by-election campaign.

It no longer mattered who became the Tory leader, he said. Claims that no one else would enter the race meant that Tory MPs would have to choose between two candidates who could not unite their party and would not impress the country.

"The Tory party desperately needs a lengthy period in opposition to put its act in order and to heal its wounds. Everyone will be delighted to see the end of the Thatcher years, but whoever emerges from the confusion and bitterness, Labour will keep up the pressure and ensure that any new leader is in as much trouble as Mrs Thatcher is now," Mr Dewar said.

Everyone, with the possible exception of Mrs Thatcher, knew that the end of Thatcherism was at hand, he said.

Irene Adams, who is seeking to replace her late husband, Allen Adams, as Labour MP for Paisley North, said she did not know if Labour was gaining votes at the expense of the Tories. "They start from such a low base that it is

difficult for them to gain in this area, but I can tell you that it is certainly doing us no harm," she said.

John MacGregor, leader of the House of Commons, was to have visited Paisley yesterday to speak in support of the two Tory candidates fighting Paisley North and Paisley South in next week's by-elections.

The task of explaining the party's present difficulties to the press was left to Michael Hirst, president of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association, who conceded that the leadership struggle was an irritation to the Paisley campaigns. "There has to be a clear and decisive result," he said. "It would be wrong of me to say that any candidate should stand down. There are far wiser heads than my own that will be offering counsel. The element of support that has been withheld from the prime minister in the first ballot is significant and one cannot deny that I am keen to make sure that the authority of the second ballot is such that the authority of the leader is restored by it."

Paisley North 1987 General Election
 Allen Adams (Lab) 20,193 (61.0%)
 John MacGregor (Con) 12,741 (38.9%)
Paisley South 1987 General Election
 Norman Buchan (Lab) 21,411 (61.0%)
 John MacGregor (Con) 13,741 (38.9%)
Paisley South 1987 General Election
 Norman Buchan (Lab) 21,411 (61.0%)
 John MacGregor (Con) 13,741 (38.9%)

ITV feast of crime and drama

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

INDEPENDENT television companies, preparing to defend their licences in next year's Channel 3 franchise auction, yesterday unveiled a £121 million winter programme line-up aimed at increasing the network's autumn ratings lead over BBC1.

In spite of a big fall in advertising revenue, the ITV network has increased its winter programme budget by more than 25 per cent and is concentrating on new British-made thrillers and detective dramas.

The average ratings for ITV so far this year are 43 per cent, compared to BBC1's 38 per cent.

New drama for the winter season includes John Le Carré's *A Murder of Quality*, with Glenda Jackson and Joaquin Phoenix, and a new series of *The Bill*, with the return of *The Bill*, *Inspector Morse*, *El CID*, *The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes*, *Agatha Christie's Poirot* and a sixth series of John Mortimer's *Rumpole of the Bailey*. Peter Falk and Barry Foster return in *Columbo* and *Van Der Valk*, as does Roy Marsden as Adam Dalglish in an adaptation of P.D. James's novel *Devices and Desires*.

The new situation comedy series include *Trouble in Mind*, with Richard O'Sullivan and Susan Penhaligon, and *Second Thoughts*, about a couple marrying for a second time. Rick Mayall returns as Alan B'Stard in *The New Statesman*, while Penelope Keith plays a Labour MP in *No Job For a Lady*.

After four rounds of the Chess Olympiad in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, the lead is shared by West Germany and the United States on 13 points out of a possible 16. The USSR is third with 12; England, who drew 2-2 with Bulgaria has 11½ points.

Thesis on Abba hits wins prize
 By JOHN O'LEARY
HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MOZART and Beethoven have had to give way to the Swedish pop group Abba as the subject for a music prize at Trinity College, Cambridge.

Philip Lodge, aged 21, an undergraduate described by his tutors as a brilliant musician, wrote a dissertation on the parallelism in the group's music. The third-year student so impressed the scholars with his research that they awarded him a special £150 prize to help to pay for instruments.

Mr Lodge, who explored common themes in 30 Abba hits, said yesterday he looked at melody construction and for the codes linking songs. "I didn't want to accept that because these were pop songs, they were written with no logical concept behind them musically. I think I discovered the principles which made the songs memorable."

Husband runs over his wife

A woman cyclist was run down and killed by an ambulance driven by her husband yesterday.

Michael Rumble was driving a charity ambulance behind his wife Jean to escort her while she cycled to their home at Gillingham, Kent, when she fell under the ambulance. Police said she worked in the evening and was always chartered by her husband on their way home.

Attack charge

Bryan Hogg, a merchant seaman, of Rushington, Lincolnshire, was remanded in custody yesterday by Lincoln magistrates accused of trying to murder two boys aged five and seven and falsely imprisoning them in his car boot. The condition of two boys taken to Lincoln hospital this week is serious but stable.

Mother dies

A mother died to save her daughter yesterday. Pat Prior, aged 35, of Walton, Liverpool, pushed her daughter Hannah, aged six, safely out of the path of a lorry while walking her home from school, but was struck by the lorry.

Levin honoured

Bernard Levin went to Buckingham Palace yesterday to receive the CBE he was awarded in the Queen's Birthday Honours, and remarked modestly: "Why me? I was rather surprised to get the award." The Queen did not say whether she reads his column in *The Times*, but did comment on his staying power. "I gather you have been doing this for a long time," she said.

Chess lead

After four rounds of the Chess Olympiad in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, the lead is shared by West Germany and the United States on 13 points out of a possible 16. The USSR is third with 12; England, who drew 2-2 with Bulgaria has 11½ points.

Posting date

Next Tuesday is the latest recommended date for sending packets up to 2 kgs to more than 20 European countries including France, Germany and Portugal, using economy surface mail, in time for Christmas.

Sainsbury fined

Supermarket chain Sainsbury was fined £1,600 at Nottingham Magistrates' Court on charges of overpricing bacon and cheese products.

Unkindest cut

Qualcast is to cut 97 jobs at its lawnmower factory in Sunnyhill, Derby, because repeated dry summers have reduced demand.

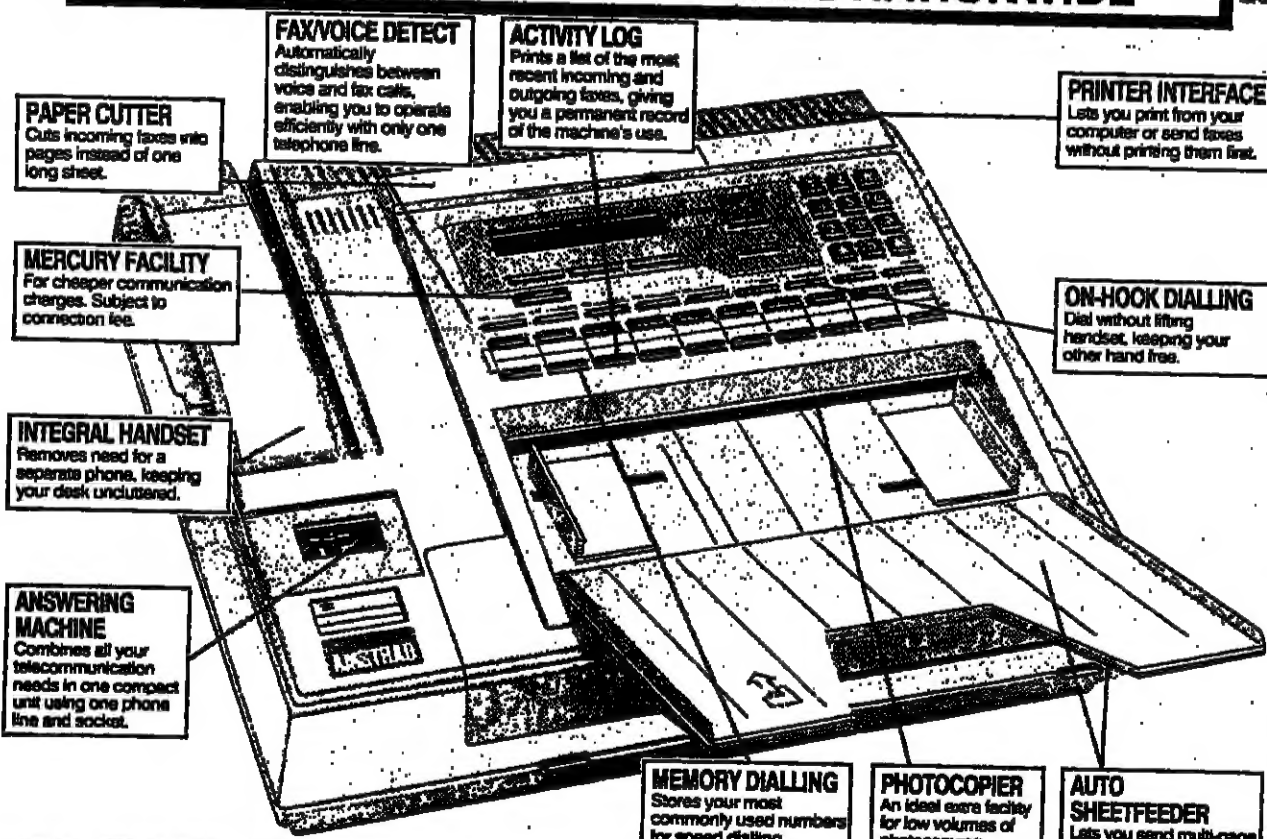
Presses stop

Brazzaville — Journalists in the Congo government media went on strike, joining teachers, sports administrators and scientific and cultural staff who stopped work on Tuesday. Their joint work union is seeking better working conditions and new pay structures. (AFP)

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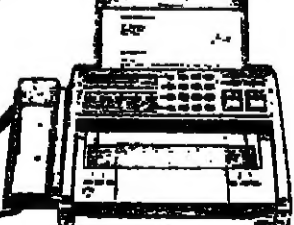
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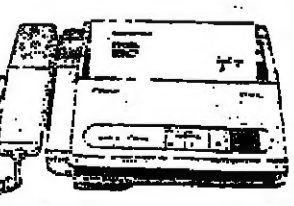
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COPYING FACILITY	•	•	•	•	•
TIMED TRANSMISSION	•	•	•	•	•
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Patten announces tough new powers over 'cap' councils

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

CHRIS Patten, the environment secretary, unveiled tough new capping powers last night which will give him the right to specify the community charge levied by councils that breach his spending limits.

The Community Charges (Substitute Spending) bill, introduced to the Commons

yesterday, represents an important extension of his powers to control the financial affairs of charge-capped councils.

It was condemned immediately by Labour which said that the bill's sweeping new powers would force some councils into near bankruptcy by denying them the flexibility to make up for non-payment

of the association's financial secretary said.

"All the evidence from this year's experience shows that capped councils suffer much higher levels of non-payment than other local authorities. If they fail to take account of this in re-setting bills, the consequences could be very severe."

Fears were also expressed that it would have the effect of pushing up community charge bills next year as local authority treasurers "played safe" by adopting higher than necessary estimates of non-collection in their calculations to safeguard against the risks of capping.

The bill had been foreshadowed in speeches by Mr Patten, but it was not mentioned in the Queen's Speech at the state opening of Parliament on November 7.

Mr Patten announced on October 31 that he would cap councils that set budgets more than 12.5 per cent above their standard spending assessments, or 9 per cent above their budgets for the current financial year.

Lambeth had set its post-capping poll tax at £521 a head, £29 above the figure suggested by Mr Patten, on the ground that it needed more income to cover the shortfall caused by the effects of capping.

The audit commission reported last month that as many as a half of all charge payers in areas controlled by capped councils had withheld payment because of the uncertainty caused by capping.

The new bill, which will be debated by the Commons on December 3, sets out a strict formula to be used by councils when recalculating their poll tax bills after capping.

The individual community charge will have to be reduced by a figure produced by dividing the reduction in the overall budget by the number of charge payers.

"The formula will ensure that any budget reductions arising from charge-capping are fully reflected in reduced community charges," Mr Patten said. "Authorities will not be able to deny their charge-payers the full benefits of capping."

David Blunkett, Labour's local government spokesman, said: "This is a further step towards the complete centralisation of power in the hands of the secretary of state."

"This bill will make it very difficult for councils to balance their books. It reveals the environment department's deliberate attempts to undermine local democracy and sensible local budgeting."

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities said it would be taking legal advice about the possible conflict of duties that the bill might produce for local authority treasurers.

On the one hand, they had a statutory duty to produce a balanced budget and could face action by the district auditor if they failed to do so. On the other, the new bill would compel them to follow a rigid formula.

"They will be forced to follow the formula even if it flies in the face of common sense and the realities that they can see in front of their own eyes", Martin Pilgrim,



Disability bill 'is mean'

A bill bringing in two new benefits for the disabled was attacked by Labour at second reading as "a limited gesture from a dying government".

One benefit in the Disability Benefits bill extends help to cope with the extra costs of disability and the other allows disabled people to work without losing income.

Tony Newton, the social security minister, said that it would cost an extra £325 million. Michael Meacher, for Labour, accused ministers of meanness.

Hostages' poll tax

The Gulf hostages should be exempt from poll tax, Michael Portillo, local government minister, has told local authorities. He outlined his advice in a written Commons reply.

He said that those normally resident in Kuwait or Iraq would continue to have no liability; those detained should have no liability if their detention lasted more than six months and those whose main UK residence was unoccupied for more than six months because of detention should not be liable to the standard charge.

Hungry birds

Wood pigeons eat £2 million worth of oil seed rape a year, David Maclean, junior agriculture minister, said in a written reply. Damage by starlings could take 12 per cent of barley sown for cattle and 20 per cent of the cherry crop. Brent geese reduced the yield of winter wheat in some areas by up to 10 per cent.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Northern Ireland; prime minister; Debate on Opposition no-confidence motion. Lords (3): Debate on European economic, monetary and political union.

MPs want end to £2bn tax backlog

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Commons watchdog, the public accounts committee, demanded action by the Inland Revenue yesterday to reduce the regular £2 billion backlog in tax payments.

The committee found that employers often delay paying their employees' pay-as-you-earn contributions. Each month about £2 billion of PAYE is overdue by a few days and about £700 million is still owed two weeks later.

The Inland Revenue admitted to the committee that officials concentrated on speeding payments from the largest firms and delayed bringing enforcement action for smaller PAYE debts for at least nine weeks.

The MPs also complained that the inefficient system of running two separate networks for the assessment and collection of tax meant a poor service for customers. A change in the system should

be made by 1992, they said.

The Inland Revenue is studying ways to modernise the antiquated schedule D tax system for the self-employed to make assessment more accurate.

The report added: "Some 60 per cent of schedule D assessments have to be estimated because, in these cases, inspectors of taxes do not receive completed returns and accounts in sufficient time to assess tax debts on agreement figures before the statutorily prescribed payment date."

The Inland Revenue said it had considered giving incentives to prompt taxpayers but found that the Treasury would lose because most people paid their taxes on time.

Public accounts committee thirty-ninth report: Inland Revenue - Collection and Enforcement of Debts (Stationery Office, £5.85).



Patten: bill sets out strict new formula on poll tax

Nuclear weapons 'must remain in Europe'

THE prime minister told MPs yesterday that it was vital to keep some short-range nuclear weapons in Europe, although negotiations to reduce them could start after the signing in Paris of the treaty cutting conventional forces.

Margaret Thatcher was reporting to the Commons on her return from the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), which, she said, marked the end of the cold war and was a triumph of democracy.

She was questioned by Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, who said that the new architecture of Germany and the whole of central and Eastern Europe made the weapons redundant. He said: "They should therefore be removed as soon as negotiated agreement can be achieved."

The prime minister said that the Nato summit last year had made clear that the weapons would continue to fulfill an essential role in Nato's overall strategy to prevent war. "It is vital from that communiqué that we keep some of them."

Earlier, she gave a formal statement on the CSCE, which was attended by leaders of 34 European and North American nations.

Mrs Thatcher told MPs: "This summit marked the end of the cold war in Europe and

the triumph of democracy, freedom and the rule of law."

She added: "We should not expect too much of the CSCE. It is not a defence organisation and we should not try to make it one. Nato will remain the core of Western defence."

"But the CSCE can serve as an example of observance of human rights, of how countries should behave towards each other, and of how to settle disputes peacefully. It should be a model for peace, stability and good neighbourliness."

She added that the agreement had been brought about because of the steadfastness of the government in defence without the support of the Opposition. "This agreement could not have come about unless we had been in power."

James Lamond, Labour MP for Oldham Central and Royton, said that, although Mrs Thatcher sought to take to herself credit now, she had been scornful when Harold Wilson had signed the Helsinki final act in 1975.

Mrs Thatcher told him that things had been different then. The final act seemed to have agreed to the division of Europe and the inclusion of the Baltic states in the Soviet Union in return for commitments from the Soviet Union that would not be carried out.

It was not until President

Gorbachev came to power that the Helsinki accords came to have possibilities and questions of human rights were raised at meetings with the Soviet Union.

Tony Benn, Labour MP for Chesterfield, said that one of the most welcome parts of the agreement in Paris was the commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes and to conciliation. That was in marked contrast to the attitude that Mrs Thatcher and President Bush took towards the dispute in the Middle East.

Even during the cold war, he said, with President Reagan speaking of the "evil empire", there were summits, meetings and negotiations between East and West. But in the case of Iraq none of that was permitted: no negotiations, no discussions, no diplomacy, although there was a widely held view among statesmen that there should be.

Mrs Thatcher said that Mr Benn seemed to forget that there had been a brutal invasion of Kuwait and that brutality and murder continued. The suggestion by President Saddam Hussein that hostages would begin to be released at Christmas had been rejected as yet another example of playing games with human lives.

Leading article, page 13

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European security summit

'Magna Carta' hails democracy's triumph over communist rule

From MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

A NEW "Magna Carta" that underwrites the switch from hardline communism to democratic government across Eastern Europe was signed by 34 leaders at the Paris summit yesterday.

The leaders from East and West had signed a similar document 15 years ago, promising to end abuses of human rights. But the signatures on the Helsinki Final Act included those of President Brezhnev of the Soviet Union and President Husak of Czechoslovakia, neither of whom was noted for supporting democracy.

Yesterday their successors, President Gorbachev, the man who set the reform ball rolling across Eastern Europe in 1985, and President Havel, whose courage played a key role in ridding his country of totalitarianism, officially joined a new European club.

The document they signed, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, has been dubbed the new Magna Carta by Margaret Thatcher. President Bush said the signatories were closing a chapter in history: "The Cold War is over," he said. President Mitterrand commented: "We 34 states share from now on a common vision of the world and a common heritage of values."

The 19-page charter is an endorsement of multi-party democracy, market economies and individual human rights. "Our states will co-operate and support each other with the aim of making democratic gains irreversible," the charter says. "Europe is liberating itself from the legacy of the past. The courage of men and women, the strength of the will of the peoples and the power of the ideas of the Helsinki Final Act have opened up a new era of democracy, peace and unity in Europe."

The charter commits the 34 signatories to helping the new democracies to develop market economies. With the Soviet Union's economy collapsing and Eastern European countries facing crippling energy shortages, this could be the first real test of the charter.

The environment also features prominently. The 34 leaders, members of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE),

pledged to make full use of the CSCE as a framework for forming common objectives on improving and preserving the environment.

The charter says: "Preservation of the environment is a shared responsibility of all our nations. While supporting national and regional efforts in this field, we must also look to the pressing need for joint action on a wider scale."

Under the heading "human dimension", the charter declares respect for human rights to be irrevocable and emphasises the need to protect national minorities. To underline the point, a meeting of experts on national minorities is to be held in Geneva next July to find ways of combating racial and other discrimination.

Several organisations are to be set up in Europe to provide the necessary bureaucratic and parliamentary backing for the ideals expressed in the charter. The document envisages a CSCE parliamentary assembly, involving members of parliament from all 34 states. They would represent about a billion people. There will also be an Office of Free Elections, based in Warsaw, which will monitor electoral procedures in Europe.

Foreign ministers from the 34 countries will meet at least once a year, acting as the main forum for political consultations within the CSCE. The first meeting will be in Berlin. There will also be a Committee of Senior Officials who will prepare the ground for the council of foreign ministers and carry out its decisions. The committee's first meeting, chaired by Yugoslavia, will be in Vienna in January.

Following a suggestion from Czechoslovakia, a small CSCE secretariat will be set up in Prague. A proposed Conflict Prevention Centre, which has been enthusiastically supported by President Gorbachev, will be in Vienna. A consultative meeting to work out the framework for this approach to resolving crises in Europe will be held on December 3. One of its roles will be to help in producing an annual exchange of military information.

The charter renews the pledge under the Helsinki Final Act to refrain from the threat or use of force against

any other country's territorial integrity. The charter states: "We reaffirm our commitment to settle disputes by peaceful means... Our relations will rest on our common adherence to democratic values and to human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Confirming that the Brezhnev doctrine, permitting Soviet interference in Eastern Europe, was now as dead as the Warsaw Pact military alliance and the Cold War, the charter says: "We fully recognise the freedom of states to choose their own security arrangements." Although the Gulf is not mentioned in the document, there is also an acknowledgement that the United Nations is now taking on a more influential role.

"We recognise with satisfaction," the charter says, "the growing role of the United Nations in world affairs and its increasing effectiveness, fostered by the improvement in relations among our states." In a reference to terrorism and drug-trafficking, the charter says: "Although the threat of conflict in Europe has diminished, other dangers threaten the stability of our societies."

"We are determined to co-operate in defending democratic institutions against attacks which violate the independence, sovereignty or territorial integrity of the (34) states. These include illegal activities involving outside pressure, coercion and subversion."

The cost of running the new CSCE institutions will be divided among the 34 states, with the largest share, 9.1 per cent each, falling on America, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, Germany and Italy.

Japanese absence: One country was noticeably absent from the summit - Japan (Michael Binyon writes). Present at every other gathering of world leaders and decision-makers nowadays, their absence was explicable politically and geographically - Japan is Asian and wants no part of arms treaty negotiations - but not emotionally.

Japanese diplomats were bitter in talks with Western counterparts. "The first and second world wars have joined together and left us out."

Leading article, page 13



George's day: President Bush, in front of a portrait of George Washington at the American embassy in Paris, giving an impromptu news conference yesterday

Mitterrand exhorts leaders to turn words into actions

From MICHAEL EVANS AND MICHAEL BINYON IN PARIS

PRESIDENT Mitterrand closed the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, calling on world leaders now to turn their lofty words into deeds. By the end of the millennium Europe must translate into reality its new world vision and common values. "Liberty and law are less matters of definition than application," he declared.

He said the three-day summit had given the world hope. Former stereotypes had given way to a measured, responsible and friendly approach. "Exhausted by wars it brought

on itself, Europe is setting out again on a good footing with ambition and realism." The Paris summit formally set up the CSCE as a permanent body, establishing a secretariat, a parliamentary assembly and an office to monitor free elections.

The charter signed yesterday completes and amplifies the declarations adopted in the Helsinki Final Act 15 years ago. The leaders set a timetable for summits every two years and regular consultations at ministerial level. The next follow-up meeting will be in Helsinki in 1992.

President Bush said yesterday the summit had underlined the unity of all 34 nations, including the Soviet Union, on the Gulf. He denied there was any division with President Gorbachev over the American plan to introduce a new United Nations resolution authorising the use of force. But further negotiations were needed with Moscow.

"We are together with the Soviet Union. The process is going forward properly. Things are holding together very well indeed, and I am very encouraged," he said. There was no fixed deadline by which Iraq had to leave Kuwait. The United States would continue "marching up the pressure" until it did.

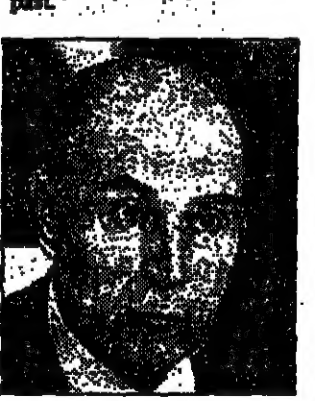
In a flurry of press conferences yesterday, President Gorbachev and other leaders expressed support for the United States. The Soviet leader, who said things could not be allowed to continue as they were in Kuwait, favoured a meeting soon of the United Nations Security Council to analyse the latest developments in the Gulf.

The summit heard strong appeals for help from East

European leaders, who said their fragile new democracies were threatened by high oil prices, economic breakdown and a dangerous new wave of nationalism. Western leaders also spoke of the urgency of helping the Soviet Union. Mr Gorbachev gave them lists of basic foodstuffs his country needed to help it get through the winter. The German and Italian foreign ministers predicted that the European Community would decide in Rome next month to give Moscow \$1 billion (£510 million) in emergency aid.

All speakers praised the signature of the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty on Monday as a watershed in relations between East and West Europe, and a guarantee that the two former military blocs would never go to war with each other.

East European leaders announced that the Warsaw Pact was now dead as a military alliance, and would soon be formally disbanded. President Havel of Czechoslovakia declared: "In contrast with the North Atlantic alliance, the Warsaw Treaty Organisation is an outdated remnant of the past."



Mitterrand at yesterday's session of talks in Paris

Paris accord charts path to new harmony

FOLLOWING are textual extracts from the Charter of Paris for a New Europe signed at the end of yesterday's 34-nation CSCE summit:

1 A New Era of Democracy, Peace and Unity

We, the Heads of State or Government of the States participating in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, have assembled in Paris at a time of profound change and historic expectations. The era of confrontation and division of Europe has ended. We declare that henceforth our relations will be founded on respect and co-operation.

The 10 Principles of the Final Act will guide us towards this ambitious future, just as they have lighted our way towards better relations for the past 15 years. We undertake to build, consolidate and strengthen democracy as the only system of government of our nations.

Human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, are inalienable and are guaranteed by law.

Democratic government is based on the will of the people, expressed regularly through free and fair elections. Democracy has as its foundation respect for the human person and the rule of law.

We stress that full use should be made in this context of the opportunity of the meeting on the peaceful settlement of disputes which will be convened in Valletta at the beginning of 1991.

We reaffirm the need to continue to support democratic countries in transition towards the establishment of market economy and the creation of the basis for self-sustained economic and social growth as already undertaken by the Group of 24 countries.

We are determined to give the necessary impetus to co-operation among our States in the fields of energy, transport and tourism for economic and social development.

We pledge to intensify our endeavours to protect and improve our environment in order to restore and maintain a sound ecological balance in air, water and soil.

In order to promote greater familiarity amongst our peoples, we favour the establishment of cultural centres in cities of other participating States as well as increased co-operation in the artistic, scientific, cultural, and sports fields, through exchange in music, theatre, literature and the arts.

We recognise that the issues of migrant workers and their families legally residing in host countries have economic, cultural and social aspects as well as their human dimensions.

We are concerned with the continuing tensions in the (Mediterranean) region, and renew our determination to intensify efforts towards finding just, viable and lasting solutions through peaceful means to outstanding crucial problems, based on respect for the principles of the Final Act.

3 New Structures and Institutions of the CSCE Process

We, the heads of State or Government, shall meet next time in Helsinki on the occasion of the CSCE Follow-up Meeting 1992. Thereafter, we will meet on the occasion of subsequent follow-up meetings.

Our Ministers for Foreign Affairs will meet, as a Council, regularly and at least once a year. These meetings will provide the central forum for political consultations within the CSCE process.

The first meeting of the Council will take place in Berlin.

In order to provide administrative support for these consultations, we establish a Secretariat in Prague.

Follow-up meetings of the participating States will be held, as a rule, every two years to allow the participating States to take stock of developments, review the implementation of their commitments and consider further steps in the CSCE process.

We decide to create a Conflict Prevention Centre in Vienna to assist the Council in reducing the risk of conflict.

We decide to establish an Office for Free Elections in Warsaw to facilitate contacts and the exchange of information on elections within participating States.

Recognising the important role parliamentarians can play in the CSCE process, we call for greater parliamentary involvement in the CSCE, in particular through the creation of a CSCE parliamentary assembly, involving members of parliaments from all participating States. (Reuters)

Austrians quarrel over refugees

From SUE MASTERMAN IN VIENNA

THE fate of some 7,000 Romanian refugees has created a fierce dispute in Austria, where the caretaker government has promised to deport them.

The announcement last week by the interior minister, Franz Loesch, that the 7,000 would be sent back to Romania caused an outcry from the church and refugee support groups, and a blunt refusal by Austrian airlines to transport people anywhere against their will.

Parallels have been drawn with the Vietnamese boat people, but politicians are more worried about what damage the deportations will do to Austria's image abroad than the fate of the refugees themselves.

A plan to deport the Romanians by bus through Hungary has been thwarted by Hungary's insistence that the buses be sealed during their passage in case the Romanians try to flee. This has drawn comparisons with the wartime deportation of Jews. The refugees themselves, many of

whom arrived in Austria before Romania's December revolution, have said they are sure they face persecution in their home country, and that they would rather die than be forced to return. "There will be a bath of blood and tears," one said.

The interior ministry refused to say when the deportations would start, for fear, it is claimed, that demonstrators will attempt to prevent them taking place. Some refugees have received expulsion orders but Chancellor Franz Vranitzky has now said there is no question of the 7,000 being forced to return soon, and that new efforts will be made to find them work and accommodation. Those who can prove they have both will be allowed to stay.

A group of 60 Romanians being detained in Austrian jails, convicted of crimes such as burglary and shoplifting, would be deported soon, he said.

During the campaign leading up to the general election in early October, the future of

the East European refugees played an important role. Public demand that the number of refugees allowed to stay should be drastically reduced led all three main parties to promise that this would be done.

Since change swept through Eastern Europe, Austria has announced that it no longer automatically grants asylum to people from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary or Romania.

The Austrian predicament is symptomatic of the mood in central Europe, where there is a growing fear and feeling of helplessness as winter approaches, bringing the threat of famine in the Soviet Union and some former Eastern bloc countries.

On Monday the mayors of Vienna, Prague and Budapest launched a joint appeal for international assistance in tackling a predicted potential influx of up to three million Soviet citizens fleeing from hardship, if Soviet passport laws are liberalised on the target date of January 1, 1991.

In Romania yesterday, more than a thousand anti-government demonstrators marched through central Bucharest shouting "Down with communism" (Reuters writes). The march was staged in memory of those killed during the revolution which overthrew the dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. The demonstrators knelt in University Square to pray and light candles for the victims before marching on government headquarters.

According to official figures, 1,033 people were killed during the revolution, but the demonstrators said this figure was too low and urged the ruling National Salvation Front to publish a list of all killed in the uprising.

The official news agency Rompres reported an anti-government demonstration by trade unionists protesting against price rises in the oil town of Ploiesti, 40 miles north of Bucharest. Three thousand workers protested in nearby Pitesti on Tuesday, it added.

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Gorbachev appeals for emergency food aid

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN PARIS

DROPPING all diplomatic inhibitions, President Gorbachev appealed to world leaders at the security summit to help his beleaguered country as it began a grim winter.

He handed out a list of emergency food requirements which included items as basic as salted butter, peanut oil and powdered milk. But according to Brian Mulroney, the Canadian prime minister, the Soviet leader was not looking for alms, or passing round a begging bowl, but wanted commercial transactions to help feed his country.

His appeal came as Italy announced that the European Community would agree a \$1 billion (£510 million) aid package to the Soviet Union at the Rome summit next month. Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, said the Twelve, who have expressed growing anxiety over shortages and economic breakdown in the Soviet Union, would probably agree emergency humanitarian aid to "put goods in the shops".

It would be the first big rescue package so far agreed for the Russians, and follows a detailed study of Soviet needs by the European Commission. The United States and Japan, two other possible donors, have still made no firm commitments and want to wait until the end of the year for a report commissioned by the Group of Seven.

In bilateral talks with Western leaders, including Margaret Thatcher, Mr Gorbachev was frank about the political and economic chaos overtaking his country. Having been hesitant over supporting emergency aid, Britain now sees the underpinning of Mr Gorbachev's position as a vital Western interest.

Meanwhile, other East European countries have made urgent appeals to their Western partners at the summit for help to stave off economic collapse. Leaders of Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia all gave warnings against the redivision of Europe along economic instead of ideological lines.

"Our common future may be darkened by the sinister clouds of the resurgent conflicts of bygone days, unless the split into a rich and a poor

Europe, an 'A' class and a 'B' class Europe, is overcome," said Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the Polish prime minister. The gravity of the problem had to be recognised in all its magnitude, a determined and consistent solution could not be delayed indefinitely.

President Borisav Jovic of Yugoslavia voiced the same concern. "It would be disastrous for both democracy and the new togetherness that is being forged in Europe if existing economic differences were to grow into permanent divisions," Jozsef Antall, the conservative Hungarian prime minister, spoke of a "new welfare wall" in place of the iron curtain.

Western leaders also called for urgent help for the emerging democracies. President Manno Koivisto of Finland said growth in the economic and social gap might threaten stability in all Europe. People should not have to leave home to seek a materially secure life.

"We have here committed ourselves, in the name of common interest, to support those who are ready to help themselves," President Mitterrand of France, in his opening address, asked: "If economic and technological coupling were to replace ideological division, what will we have gained?" The 34 nations had to show collective solidarity to support collapsing economies and help them back into world trade.

East European leaders also gave warnings of growing nationalism riding in on the back of economic hardship and frustration. The Yugoslav leader, with clear reference to the turbulent ethnic strife in his country, insisted that CSCE must strengthen minority rights.

President Gorbachev also gave a strong warning about the unleashing of nationalist forces. And Mr Antall said that nationality problems were emerging with greater intensity than in the past.

● MOSCOW: Leningrad, the second largest Soviet city, has received 5,000 food parcels from Hamburg, its German twin city, following its call for international emergency relief to help it through the winter, local officials said yesterday. (AFP)



Time check: President Gorbachev arriving for the final session of the three-day security summit in Paris yesterday

Lithuania feels spurned by Paris summit

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN VILNIUS

LITHUANIAN officials have expressed disappointment that Baltic foreign ministers were not admitted as official guests to the CSCE summit in Paris because of Soviet objections.

The three Baltic republics were represented in Paris by their foreign ministers, who were invited by Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister. They were later invited by Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, according to a Lithuanian foreign ministry official. The republics had hoped for observer status at the summit, but this was refused.

The news from Paris has added to a general air of fatigue and despondency in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, where euphoria over the independence declaration of March 11 has long worn off. The public solidarity encouraged by the Soviet Union's economic blockade of early summer has faded, leaving a fragmented cast of first-generation politicians trying to score points from each other in parliamentary debate.

"What can you expect from a country which has had so little political experience?" people ask despairingly. The extreme left and right wings are blamed for agitating too

fast for change, but there has been little outright criticism of the demonstration by the anti-communist Freedom League, which resulted in Soviet troops shooting into the air at the weekend.

The demonstration was regarded by some as an attempt to bring Lithuania's cause to the world's headlines on the eve of the Paris summit, but the subsequent behaviour of



Pranskis: preparing for another Soviet blockade

some Soviet troops, who drove round the centre of Vilnius shooting blanks into the air, was described by a senior Lithuanian government official on Tuesday as indicating tension in the city.

Neither the troops nor the people were directly to blame, he said, conceding that hostility to the Soviet troops, camped to the north of the city, combined with intolerable housing conditions, had contributed to friction. He predicted more such incidents and said the troops involved were visibly angry. Kazimiera Pranskis, the Lithuanian prime minister, reshuffled her government on Monday, replacing three ministers. The changes reflected widespread dissatisfaction with an economic situation which is much better than in Moscow, but far from that to which Lithuania has grown accustomed. There is bitterness at Moscow's attitude, described time and again as "blackmail" and "the death

of an empire".

Dr Leonas Asmantas, the minister of energy, agreed with remarks made by Mrs Pranskis last week that Lithuania was preparing actively for another blockade. He said, however, that if a blockade was declared by Moscow it would be mostly because of the breakdown of its own economy rather than as punishment for Lithuania.

He claimed the summer blockade had cost the rest of the Soviet Union six times more financially than it had cost Lithuania. "But we are at the end of the supply line."

Bitterness is not directed only towards Moscow; some officials have harsh words for the West and Lithuania's neighbouring Baltic republics, Estonia and Latvia, which have not completely severed ties with Moscow. Both Estonia and Latvia sent delegates to address last week's emergency session of the Soviet parliament, whereas Lithuania sent only an observer, as if to a foreign parliament. "If these two republics had declared full independence, instead of trying to outplay Moscow tactically, we would all be closer to our goal," said a government official. The attitude of several foreign countries, including Britain and the United States and now also Poland, is criticised as illustrating the strength the Soviet Union derives from its weakness.

The West is too frightened by the idea that the Soviet Union will collapse, a government adviser says. It has already collapsed and the only course is to help its constituent parts.

The only chance Lithuania has of attracting Western credit is if it becomes an independent state responsible for its own repayment, officials recognise. But they complain the West will not recognise Lithuania. Lithuania is the only Soviet republic refusing to take part in discussions on next year's Soviet budget,

having been told by the Soviet prime minister two weeks ago it would not be allowed to sign bilateral contracts with the centre for particular goods. It was either all or nothing. Lithuania regards this as a betrayal by Moscow, which had apparently been negotiating for weeks on a different basis. Several officials explained Moscow's change of

mind by citing President Gorbachev's visit to Bonn and the non-aggression treaty, which fixes borders. They say Lithuania is now locked inside the Soviet Union for good. Rimantas Stankevicius, chief aide to the Lithuanian prime minister, referred to processes behind the scenes and qualifications that nobody could divine from outside.

Thai air crash kills 36

Bangkok — A plane crashed in heavy rain on the tourist island of Koh Samui off Thailand yesterday killing all 36 people on board, according to police. A local doctor said: "We have been standing by, but no people have been brought in yet. We are just waiting for corpses."

Most of the passengers were believed to be foreign tourists. (AP)

Rabbi charges

New York — A grand jury has indicted the man accused of assassinating Rabbi Meir Kahane, the anti-Arab Jewish activist, on second-degree murder charges. An Egyptian, El-Sayid Al-Nossair, aged 35, allegedly shot Mr Kahane. (AFP)

Burma ruling

Rangoon — Nita Yin Yin May, a woman working at the British embassy here, has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment under the Official Secrets Act. Two senior members of the National League for Democracy were also sentenced.

Briton seized

Lisbon — Rachel Kelly Charles, a British girl living in the Algarve with her mother and stepfather, was kidnapped near her home in the Val Navio holiday complex. A ransom has been demanded.

Bomb claim

Athens — The November 17 group claimed responsibility for an unsuccessful bomb and rocket attack on Vardis Vardionianis, aged 56, a Greek shipping and business tycoon.

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STOP THE WAR IN KUWAIT

Since 2 August 1990, Kuwait has been facing an outrageous and barbaric aggression, with over half a million Iraqi occupying troops in unlawful possession of Kuwait territory. This has resulted in the total devastation of a country that has successfully developed its future for the past half century. Kuwait has always been a peaceful and law-abiding country with a small population, and it now desperately needs help from the World to restore their freedom, independence, law and order. The people of Kuwait are both shocked and stunned by groups who call themselves the International Peace Camp. They have announced their objectives are to prevent war, and that they will camp on Kuwait territory for the purpose of acting as a human shield between the Iraqi occupying army and the international forces.

The Kuwaiti people wholeheartedly support any peaceful efforts to stop the war against them and their country. As previously indicated, Kuwait desperately needs help! However, the International Peace Camp have not given priority to the Kuwaiti people, their cause and their dignity. On the contrary, the way this peace camp is being organized fully negates its whole objective, namely: prolonging the agony and suffering of a sovereign nation under armed occupation, aiding the aggressor from fully recognizing and yielding to growing international pressure.

undermining the United Nations resolutions and World resolve, and most importantly this peace camp is being held on Kuwaiti territory without seeking the appropriate permission from Kuwaiti authorities or even consulting with them. The International Peace Camp are due to camp on Kuwaiti territory in an endeavour to prevent international forces helping the Kuwaiti people to liberate Kuwait. All this in spite of the adamant refusal of Saddam Hussein to the World community who demand the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. They should support the United Nations, the Arab League and the Islamic resolutions who are all demanding the unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces and the return of the legitimate government. They have also not considered the will of the Kuwaiti people who expressed through the popular Conference in Jeddah in Saudi Arabia, when they refused completely the Iraqi occupation, supporting their legitimate Government, saving the World to help in freeing Kuwait by all means in forcing Saddam Hussein's troops out of Kuwait.

The people of Kuwait hope that every effort will be directed to stop the war in Kuwait by demanding the withdrawal of Saddam Hussein's troops from Kuwait, thus achieving real peace in Kuwait and the Gulf.

From: Kuwaiti Association in the United Kingdom, 131, Park Lane, London W1

Polish millionaire woos electorate

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

STANISLAW Tyminski, a mysterious Polish-Canadian millionaire, has overtaken the prime minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, in the presidential election contest and is only a few points behind the front-runner, Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader.

With only three days to polling day, the election has been thrown wide open. Mr Walesa is still the most likely man to succeed General Wojciech Jaruzelski as president, but one of the latest opinion polls shows even his support has shrunk from about 40 to 28 per cent. He needs 50 per cent to win on the first round. Mr Tyminski is in second place with 21 per cent and, if this translates into voting behaviour, the second round will be between Mr Walesa and the businessman.

The prime minister's rating has dropped to 17 per cent. His first step on returning from the Paris summit yesterday was to hold an election rally and call on voters to make a "responsible" choice — a gibe at Mr Tyminski who has injected venom into the campaign by calling the prime minister a "traitor".

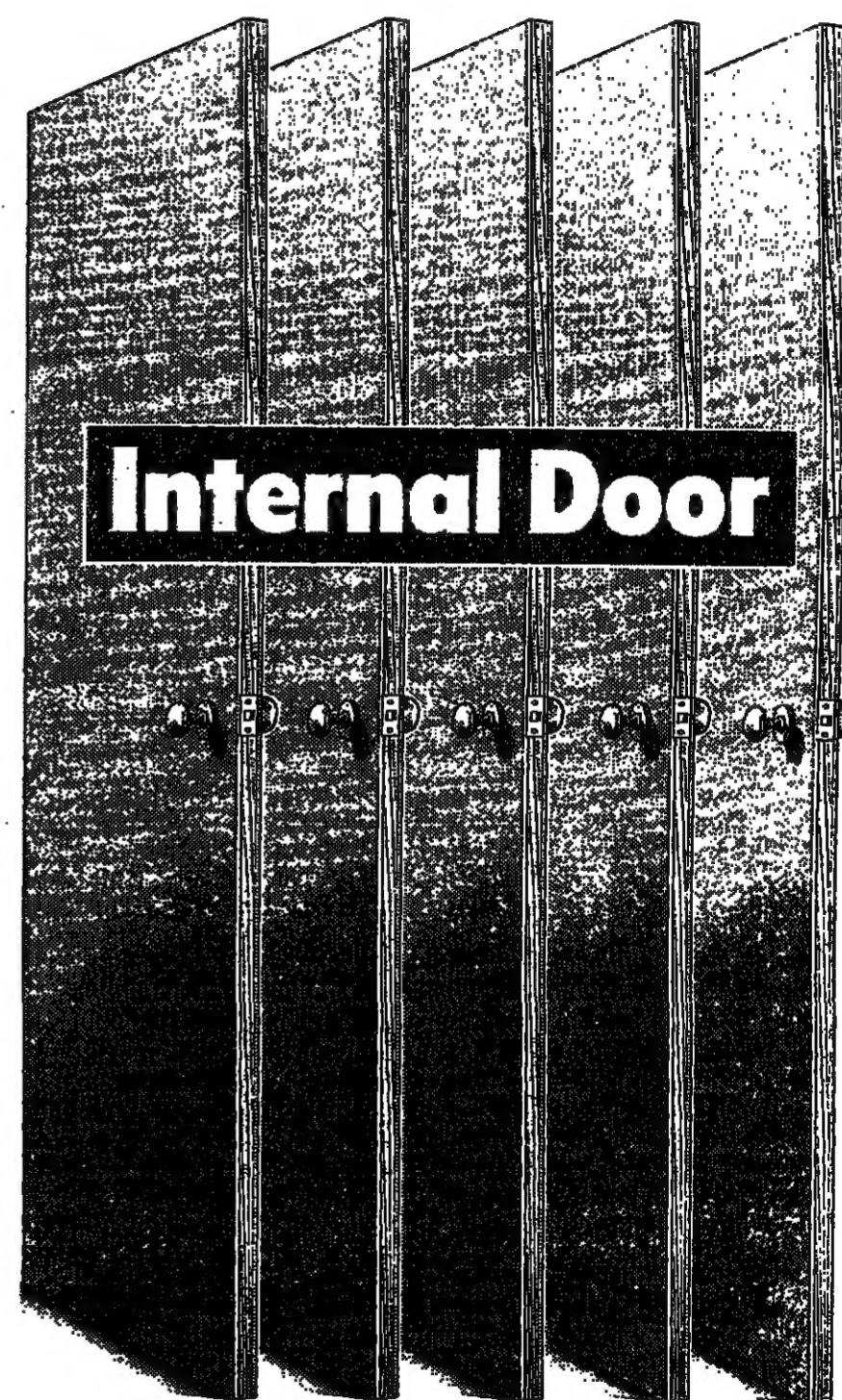
Mr Tyminski was bombarded with criticism from the five other candidates and the prosecutor-general has opened preliminary proceedings to see if the candidate should be brought to court. The businessman, aged 42, who had spent the past 20 years in Canada and Peru, summoned

a news conference in which he avoided any accusations of treachery. Instead, he accused the prime minister of "ignoring the economic interests of the nation".

But Mr Tyminski made plain he was making only a tactical retreat. "I understand that if I use this word 'traitor' again I will be jailed — I want to win this election and not be arrested." There has been no suggestion that he would be imprisoned, though if he is found guilty of libel he could face a sentence of between six months and eight years.

Mr Walesa said yesterday: "If the second round turns out to be a contest between Mr Tyminski and myself, it will be an insult to the republic." There is still a question about Mr Tyminski's political and financial background. Part of his election appeal is that he has not been involved in domestic politics, and that he appeared to be a successful businessman.

With 40 coal mines either on strike or preparing to take some protest action, and at least four cities paralysed by bus strikes, it is plain there are many workers who are unhappy with Mr Walesa and Mr Mazowiecki who support privatisation. Mr Tyminski has hit a nerve by denouncing this drive to privatise, claiming it will sell out the Polish economy to Western business since they are the only people with sufficient capital to profit from the sale of factories.



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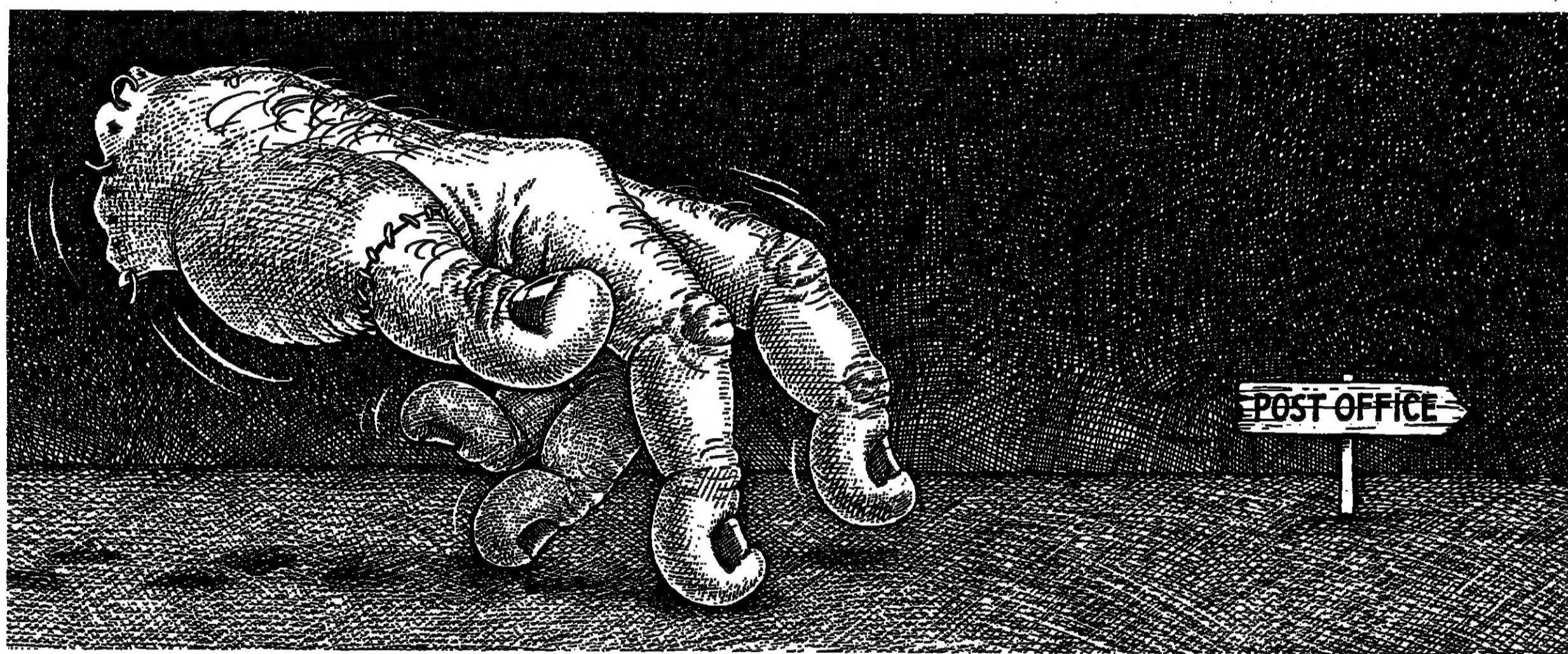
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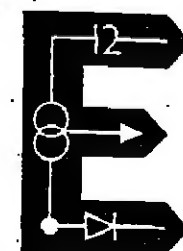
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Junk
king
ten-year
sent

Scuffles
meet new
cabinet

Najibullah
progress to

Junk bond king given ten-year jail sentence

From CHARLES BRENNER IN YORK

IN AN act widely seen as public retribution for the excesses of the 1980s, a New York judge yesterday sentenced Michael Milken, creator of the "junk bond" market and the most powerful financier of the era, to ten years' imprisonment for conspiring to flout securities and tax laws.

On top of a \$600 million (\$304 million) fine already imposed on Milken, aged 44, the sentence, passed a few hundred yards from Wall Street, was by far the severest punishment imposed on any of the figures disgraced in America's insider-trading scandals. Ivan Boesky, the financier who told the authorities of his dealings with the "junk-bond king", served two years of a three-year term.

Milken, a boyish figure who prided himself on his modest lifestyle and commitment to his family, had faced 28 years in prison but had pleaded for probation and community service. The one-time "Master of the Universe", as the big-

time bond trader became known, began to sob when he heard the sentence. "What I did violated the law. I deeply regret it, and will for the rest of my life, and I am truly sorry," he told the packed federal courtroom.

Judge Kimba Wood said Milken, the architect of the \$200 billion market for high-yield, high-risk bonds that fuelled the takeover fever of the eighties, was a "man of talent and industry". But, she said, he had committed serious crimes warranting serious punishment and the discomfort of being removed from society. The sentence would be a deterrent to others who believed they could cheat the financial system, the newly appointed judge added.

The sentencing, which came after the longest investigation in Wall Street history, has generated strong emotion. Milken's supporters, who include eminent figures in the American business world, see him as the sacrificial victim of both ambitious prosecutors and public anger over the ethics of the age. His victims and the prosecutors, who dropped 98 charges in return for his plea of guilty to six charges, cast him as one of the greatest criminal masterminds in American history.

Between 1984 and 1987 Milken earned more than \$1 billion as the junk bond wizard of Drexel Burnham Lambert, the investment house which went bankrupt earlier this year. From his famous X-shaped desk in Beverly Hills he directed billions of dollars worth of trading in the bonds that revolutionised the funding of corporate America. Although loathed by his victims for his ferocious, predatory approach, he argued that he was performing a public service by providing funds for risky new ventures that otherwise would have been unobtainable.

American corporations are now staggering under the legacy of the junk bond mania that drove them to accumulate huge debts and trim themselves to the bone. "He poisoned the system," a leading Hollywood banker said. "It will take at least a decade for the entertainment industry to recover."

Even now experts argue that entire new industries such as cable television could not have come about without Milken. "I never dreamed that I could do anything that would result in being a felon," he said in a remorseful plea to Judge Wood earlier this month. His prosecution, he said, was "an attack on my ideals, my beliefs and motives, basically an assault on my inner self."

A devoted family man who has worked for a decade on projects for poor children in Los Angeles, Milken vehemently protested his innocence until prosecutors persuaded him to accept a bargain that they said would earn him not more than three or four years in prison. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit stock manipulation, participate in fraudulent transactions and to helping Mr Boesky evade stock market laws.

Scuffles greet new cabinet

From COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

THIRTY two members of Chandra Shekhar's cabinet were sworn in yesterday by President Ramaswami Venkatarman amid boos and slogan-shouting as pressmen covering the gathering and members of the public who forced their way inside clashed with security officials.

The ceremony, 11 days after Mr Chandra Shekhar became prime minister, heading the minority Janata Dal (socialist) government propped up by the Congress (I) party, did not augur well.

The 34-member cabinet, which includes the prime minister and the deputy prime minister, Devi Lal, did not include any of Mr Devi Lal's key aides. His grim expression indicated his unhappiness over the composition of the cabinet.

Several of the key ministers are politicians with reputations for switching political parties frequently. The external affairs minister is Vidya Charan Shukla, who as information minister imposed censorship during the emergency rule declared by Indira Gandhi between 1975-77.

The finance minister, Yashwant Sinha, is a former civil servant who resigned from government service. The commerce minister, Subramaniam Swamy, a Harvard-trained economist, has long been campaigning for India to produce the atomic bomb.

Maneka Gandhi, Indira Gandhi's daughter-in-law who is estranged from her brother-in-law Rajiv, president of Congress (I), is minister for the environment.

The prime minister has retained the powerful portfolios of home, defence and information and broadcasting.

Najibullah claims progress to peace

By HAZRAT TEIMOURIAN

PRESIDENT Najibullah of Afghanistan, who is in Geneva to negotiate with opposition leaders an end to the country's 11-year civil war, proclaimed himself fully satisfied yesterday with the results of his talks and said that there had been "a 180 degree turn" by some Western powers towards his government.

Dr Najibullah described the attitude of the United States, the main financial and military backer of the Mujahidin guerrillas, as "new, positive and changing". But he denied that his hurried decision to visit Europe was a direct result of last week's meeting in Moscow between the American Secretary of State, James Baker, and the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze.

"The superpowers and the major powers can certainly help, but the key to a peaceful solution lies in the hands of Afghans themselves. More and more people and some of the moderates among our opponents have now concluded that the continuation of the war is futile. It is these we are hoping to persuade to join us in a transitional government," he said.

Reports from Moscow last week said that the United States had agreed with the

Soviet Union that an interim government headed by Dr Najibullah be set up in Kabul with the same ministries given to the Mujahidin.

He hoped that the day was not too distant when neighbouring Pakistan "would stop interfering in our affairs" so that free elections could be held.

During a press conference in Geneva, Dr Najibullah again refused to divulge the identities of his partners in the negotiations. Diplomats said, however, that they had included General Abdulwali Khan, a son-in-law of the former king Zahir Shah, and Ahmad Gellani, leader of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, one of the seven Pakistan-based Mujahidin groups.

While scathing about the hardline policy of the new Islamic government in Pakistan, which continues to support the most militant among the Mujahidin guerrillas, Dr Najibullah said that he appreciated the realism of Iran. "We hold regular and widespread talks with Iran at our embassy in Tehran." He claimed that but for the obstruction of the Pakistani army, the bulk of the three million Afghan refugees in that country would have returned to their country.



Babbling over: Spanish sailors, surrounded by relatives and fellow crewmen, celebrating their return to Cartagena from the Gulf

Le Pen secures release of 35 Britons by Iraq

By PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS AND ANDREW MC EWE

THIRTY FIVE British hostages are expected to be allowed to leave Iraq today or later this week on an aircraft carrying between 85 and 100 Europeans of nine nationalities.

The Iraqi authorities made it clear yesterday that their release was brought about by the visit to Baghdad by Jean-Marie Le Pen, the French right-wing leader. M Le Pen angered the French government by heading a delegation of nine European parliamentarians on what he said was a mission to avert war.

Whitehall sources said four of the Britons had been held under Iraq's "human shield" hostage policy. A further 27 had been living in Baghdad and four in Kuwait. These 31 people had not been detained but were unable to leave.

Britain has condemned visits to Iraq by public figures. The sources said the government's attitude to M Le Pen was the same as to any politician who went there.

The Iraqi authorities also told a Swiss delegation that 36 Europeans from seven nations could leave, including two Britons. They are expected to fly to Zurich this afternoon.

Baghdad's moves were probably intended to weaken public support in Europe for an attack on Iraqi forces in Kuwait. President Saddam Hussein has made known his resentment over Western reaction to his offer to release all the hostages in batches over three months starting from Christmas Day.

M Le Pen takes pleasure in upsetting the Paris authorities, and will do so again today if, as expected, he arrives with the hostages at Strasbourg.

First stop after his aircraft touches down will be a press conference at which the leader of the extreme right-wing National Front party may be expected to claim exclusive credit for another successful humanitarian mission.

Although there was still some uncertainty yesterday about the exact composition of this latest group, M Le Pen's aides expect most to be Germans. It remains to be seen whether they turn out to be the same Germans whose imminent release, "in appreciation of Chancellor Kohl's anti-war stance," was announced by President Saddam on Tuesday; but that would not cramp M Le Pen's style.

Irish try again on hostages

By OUR DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

GERALD Collins, the Irish foreign minister, said yesterday that he would visit Iran within a few days for talks on the Gulf and on the Western hostages in Beirut, Iraq and Kuwait.

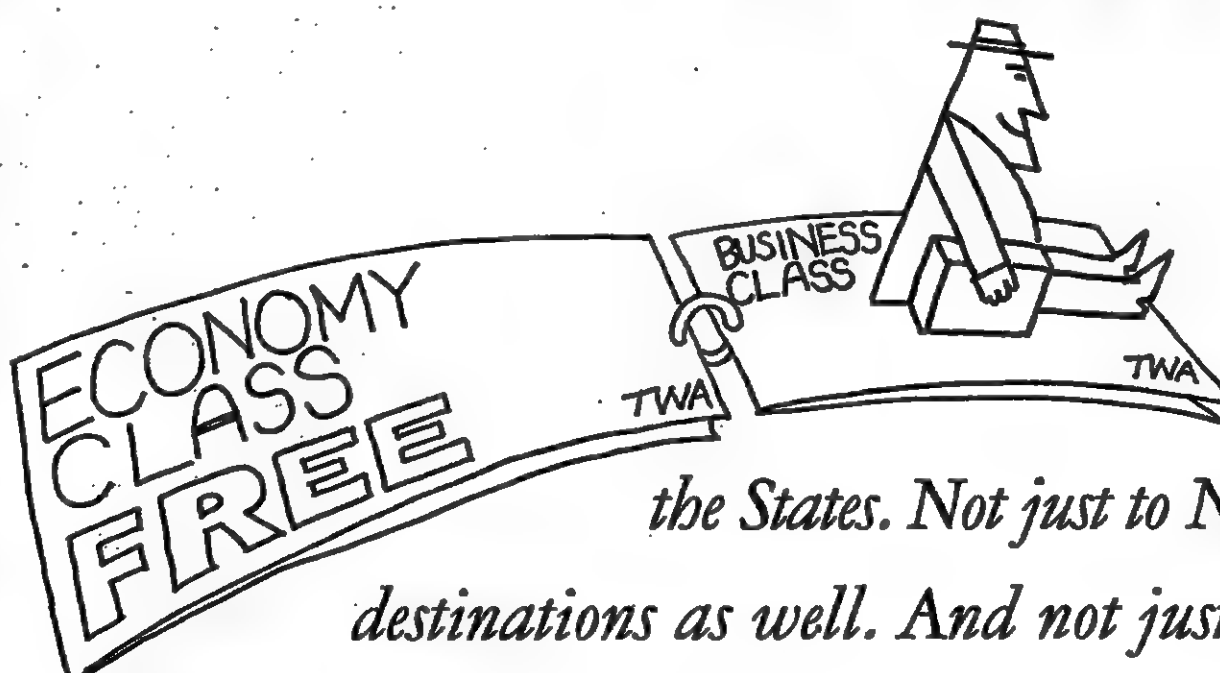
His visit may help to clarify what has delayed the release of Terry Waite, John McCarthy and other hostages in Beirut. Hezbollah, the group thought to be holding them, appears to be under conflicting pressures from Iranian moderates who want them released and hardliners who do not.

Internal disagreements may also be holding up the release of Roger Cooper, the British businessman held in Iran since 1985 for alleged spying. The Iranian authorities have told a United Nations representative that Mr Cooper is being tried on a new charge, in addition to an earlier sentence.

Reynaldo Galindo Pohl, special representative of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, was refused permission to see Mr Cooper during a recent visit to Tehran, although he was allowed to visit other prisoners.

Mr Collins' visit would be the first by an EC foreign minister since the EC dropped sanctions against Iran.

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White House free-for-all

Peter Stothard

Washington. As President Bush inspects his troops in Saudi Arabia today, the only real war his administration is engaged in is at home. The captain is away and the White House mice are playing. Even the hardest-bitten veterans of the infighting under presidents Nixon and Reagan have been shocked by the outspoken way the future of the president's domestic policy is being tossed around by mutually contemptuous rivals.

Until this week few people other than the most politically addicted were paying attention to the so-called "New Paradigm" movement which a group of conservative Bush aides formed to reassert the Reagan agenda. The name came from the work of the social scientist Thomas Kuhn, who argued that even those unhappy with the present method of providing public services would not support change unless they had a new model, a new paradigm. A group of enthusiastic policy analysts shared a White House breakfast on most Fridays for several months to promote what looks very much like Thatcherism: a mixture of education vouchers, tax credits, decentralisation and the dismantling of bureaucracies.

The president endorsed their plans but, to the disappointment of Paradigm leaders William Kristol and James Pinkerton, he did so rather quietly. The group hoped to push its ideas into the State of the Union message in January by arguing that while winning abroad, the White House was in serious danger of losing its way at home. Mr Pinkerton also warned about the dangers of cutting links with American conservatives following the débacle over the budget and the Republicans' subsequent poor showing in the mid-term elections.

Mr Bush's reaction remained favourably muted. But while the president was on his way to Saudi Arabia, via Prague, Paris, Bonn and other photo-opportunities, his budget director, Richard Darman, put the New Paradigm firmly on the front pages. He did so by burying it in his second annual report to Congress, a document which supporters of "neo-neoism" — the belief that a "bold new proposal" had to be found for every problem, "Hubbly", he called them, after the ill-fated NASA space telescope that failed because it had been insufficiently tested. Perhaps it was "emphatically paradigmatic", he mocked. In the real world it would be reduced to "Brother can you paradigm?"

The conservatives were outraged. "After the success of the budget agreement it's good to see Dick rejoicing the intellectual dialogue," said Mr Pinkerton, acidly. Mr Darman is blamed by the Paradigmers for single-handedly "bankrupting" Republicanism by persuading the presi-

dent to abandon his "no new taxes" pledge, yet here he was daring to lecture them on the emptiness of the only organised response to the administration's domestic policy failures.

The knives are now out for Mr Darman, who is said to be restless with his job and anxious to move to the Treasury or to Wall Street. But, as the president will no doubt say when he returns to Washington, "The knives are always out for Dick, so what's new?" Mr Darman, the bureaucratic fixer who believes in the essential virtue of big government, represents a slice of Mr Bush's own soul. Many see it as a bigger slice than that represented by the Reaganite anti-Washington rhetoric that he mouths at election times.

The right has meanwhile achieved one victory: John Sununu, whose head was on the block over the budget fiasco, has kept his job as White House chief of staff. But it is uncertain whether the Bush enthusiasm for Paradigmism, may not be a defeat in disguise. Mr Sununu, the sinister-looking schoolmaster of the Bush administration, is able to influence appointments, such as that of this week of William Bennett, former head of the national war on drugs and would-be president, to head the Republican national organisation. But Mr Sununu has become so discredited on Capitol Hill that, except in the president's immediate circle, a Sununu endorsement can be the kiss of death. Moreover, his obsession with identifying his denigrators in the press is said by one of them to have become a disease.

A skilful president, with his eye firmly on the view from the Oval Office window, should be able to marshal these squabbling forces to his advantage. There is no law saying the White House must be united, but there are laws which say that directionless presidents go nowhere and that those who do not articulate their policies well will be judged to have none. The standard of Mr Bush's speeches on the Gulf is so poor as to risk undermining the strategy itself.

The White House speechwriters are also on a footling. Upset that they are held responsible for Mr Bush's flaccid language, they blame Mr Sununu and James Baker, the architects of Mr Bush's "soundbite victory" over Michael Dukakis, for convincing the president that wars can be won at home and abroad by peevish one-liners such as "I've had it with Saddam Hussein."

Mr Bush needs new speechwriters, a new education secretary, a new domestic overlord who can ensure that the travelling White House corps never forgets that elections are won at home. Those are the varieties of "neo-neoism" that could save the president looking for a new job in 1992.

John Barnes sees parallels between today's divisions and major issues of the past

Will Europe reshape British politics?

In just over a century there have been several occasions on which seismic divisions cutting across the party structures have produced major realignments in British politics. The European issue, currently wracking the Conservative party, has long seemed likely to be another.

In 1886 Gladstone, bent on his mission to pacify Ireland, dived ahead with the Home Rule bill even though it cost him the support of both the Whigs and of much of the radical element within the Liberal party led by Joseph Chamberlain. Efforts to reunite the party in the following year came to nothing, and in less than a decade the Liberal Unionists had moved from support of a conservative government under Lord Salisbury into coalition with it — although a formal union with the Conservative party did not come until 1912.

By then, two decades of Conservative hegemony brought about by the Liberal split had come to an end, and the Tariff Reform controversy brought about the most massive defeat inflicted on the Conservative party this century. A growing majority espoused

Chamberlain's vision, but there was resistance not only from the Unionist free-traders but also from more moderate protectionists who feared the electoral effect of taxes on food. The party was so badly split that on one occasion when challenged by the Opposition on the issue, Conservatives walked out of the House rather than vote on it. The tariff issue was a major factor in the government's loss of momentum and its subsequent defeat in 1906.

Labour's ability to compete on even terms with the Conservatives was established in 1929 and thrown away two years later when the cabinet split over whether or not to cut unemployment benefit to help restore confidence during a financial crisis. As a result of the events that followed, MacDonald, the Labour prime minister, went to the country at the head of a National government, embodying two of the three warring groups in the Liberal party and dominated by the Conservatives.

Within more recent memory, the steady drift of the Labour party to the left after leaving office in 1970, and still more the hostility it showed towards the EC, gen-

erated tensions that came to a head after another unsuccessful period in office between 1974 and 1979. Divisions that could be papered over in the interest of continuing in government were accentuated as the party adopted a unilateralist defence policy. The dissidents eventually broke away to form the SDP.

Parties can survive splits. Both the Tories and Labour rode out splits in the mid-1960s and the early '70s, the referendum providing a way of divorcing the issue from normal party politics.

Europe, however, looks a more serious issue at the moment, comparable at least to the divisions within the Conservative party over tariff reform, but probably since it affects Labour too, more akin to the Irish issue more than a century ago.

At first sight these issues seem to have little in common other than the combination of personality clashes between leading political figures with major political differences. But on closer inspection they can be seen to fall into three overlapping categories: those that touch on the nature of the state, those that seek to overthrow a

deeply entrenched national ideology and those that are alien to some key part of the party's unifying ideology.

Home Rule threatened dissolution of the empire at a time when the trends in the world pointed in the opposite direction and tariff reform was seen as a way to avert that disintegration.

Europe attracts because it offers Britain a surrogate role in the world, but it offends not only former imperialists but those who are unwilling to submerge national identity in an organisation whose character is not British and which Britain cannot dominate. The Liberal internationalist ideology that took issue with tariffs finds its modern embodiment in the "Powellite" wing of the Conservative party, but also in Mrs Thatcher's desire to maintain a liberal ideology within Europe. The Conservatives have constructed an ideology that centres on an English national consciousness, hence their readiness to engage with an empire peopled or ruled by the British and their unease with states modelled on any other base.

This suggests why Europe is

proving a more seismic issue than debates over the nation's defences, even though these cut deep when linked to symbols of national independence or standing in the world. In both the major parties there are deeply held traditions derived from English nationalism on the one hand and liberal internationalism on the other. They sit somewhat uneasily alongside the mercantilist traditions which in the case of the Conservative party derive from tariff reform and which in the Labour party are associated with nationalisation and planning.

The final descendants of those who were both Unionists and tariff reformers find it far easier to come to terms with the European idea than those who have intellectual links with Gladstonian "little Englanders" or with the Liberal ideology of free trade. It is possible that those tensions can be resolved within the existing party structure. But it is more likely that there could be a realignment of British politics in the 1990s comparable to that of 1886.

The author is lecturer in government at the London School of Economics.

Down to earth with a bump, if Nanny would only let us

Bernard Levin finds the case of the drunken pilot a further example of reward for the irresponsible

In case you missed it, let me tell you about an amazing case recently in the Court of Appeal. It was summed up by the legal correspondent of *The Guardian* in these words:

If a passenger agrees to travel in an aircraft when he knows, and it is obvious, that the pilot is very drunk, he cannot afterwards claim damages for personal injuries caused by the pilot's negligence. That applies even if the passenger himself is drunk when he agrees, but is capable of knowing what he is doing and of appreciating the risks involved.

Mind you, Lord Justice Fox, in giving judgment, could also have won prizes for coolness, as witness his admirable statement of the obvious in these exceptionally dry words: "As anticipated pilot's error of judgment is likely to have disastrous results."

Well, yes, very disastrous, not only for the passenger, a Mr Morris, who was injured, but even more for the pilot, a Mr Murray, who was killed. The two had been drinking steadily for several hours (the unfortunate pilot, when examined post mortem, was found to have put down the equivalent of 17 whiskies, and it is very unlikely that his comrade had taken only Perrier throughout), when Mr Murray suggested a joyride in his light aircraft. Mr Morris agreed to the suggestion, and they set off to the aerodrome where the aircraft was parked.

They agreed to find that not only were the weather conditions ominously bad (low cloud, drizzle and poor visibility), but that because of these conditions all flying — or at least all flying other than that of Messrs Murray and Morris — was suspended. The intrepid aviators insisted on going ahead, and in the words of the court "they took off in a highly dangerous manoeuvre downwind and uphill".

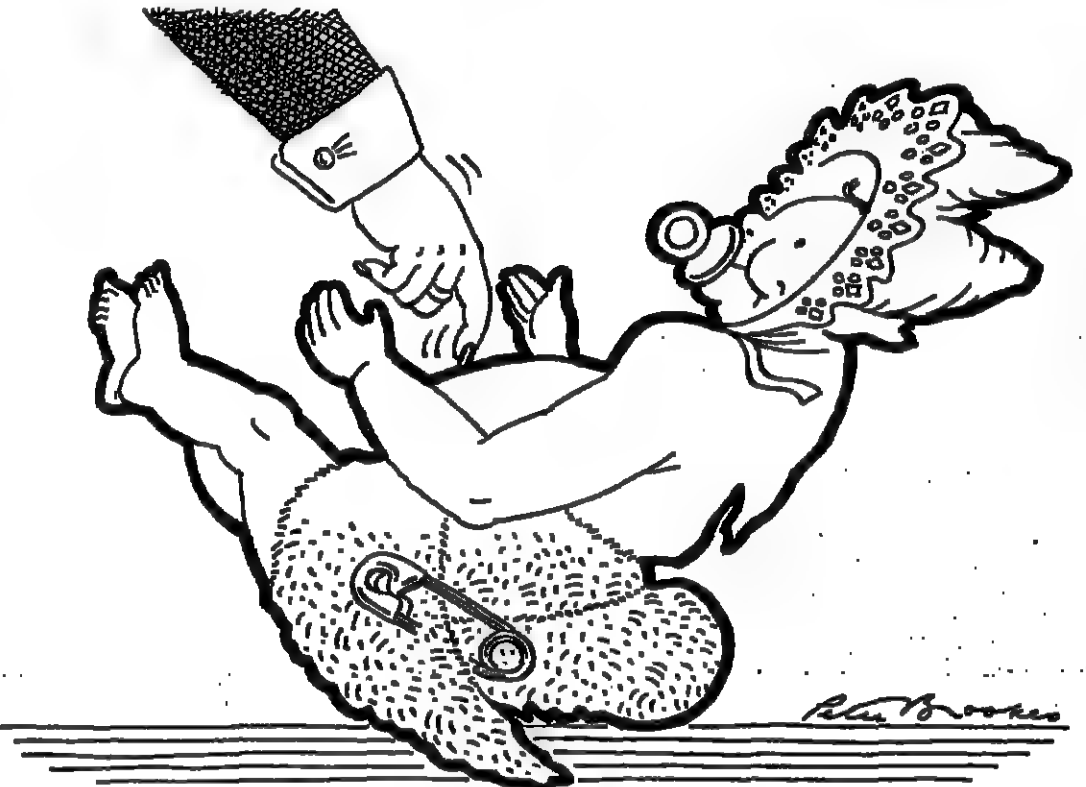
Soon afterwards, the aircraft crashed, with the results I have recounted.

We must not be flippant; one death and one set of serious injuries are no laughing matter, however risible the events before tragedy struck — or, more exactly, tragedy was invited. Let us just remain for a moment longer in the courtroom, where the judges unanimously agreed that the principle of *volenti non fit injuria*, the admirable pillar of our law that precludes restitution for one who knowingly does his own harm, was applicable in this case.

And, obviously, quite right too. But some of you have spotted the discrepancy, and must therefore be in a state of considerable bewilderment. In my first sentence I said that the case was before the Court of Appeal. How in the name of Solon, Justinian, Zeus, Napoleon and other notable lawgivers, did it get there? Who, in so glaring a case of *volenti*, was appealing to what from whom?

The astounding answer is that Mr Morris, the injured but surviving passenger, has sued the estate of the dead pilot for damages for his injuries, and the judge in the High Court had awarded him £130,000. This is not, as you might think, a case decided in the American courts, but in Britain. (For those who have not followed my frequent accounts of bizarre American lawsuits, I can summarise my theme with a single example. A New Yorker, intent on suicide, threw himself in front of a subway train. The alert driver stopped in time to save his life, but it was impossible to avoid injuring him. The would-be suicide then sued the subway company, not for frustrating his wish, but for damages for the injuries. He was awarded \$675,000.) What on earth did the judge in the first round think he was doing? It is inconceivable that he did not know of the *volenti* rule; why did he imagine that it did not apply in this case, when the events of the drunken evening could be used in standard law textbooks forever as a definition of what the rule means?

No matter; he must have had his reasons, and there was the Court of Appeal to correct his decision, so no ultimate harm was done. But it means that we must



be even more keenly on our guard in seeing that *volenti* remains central to our law; in recent years it has been dangerously diluted, which is all the more reason for our vigilance. For its significance goes far beyond its application in the courts; *volenti* is one of the most important weapons in our never-ending fight against the nanny state. Everywhere we look in our society there are people (many of whom should know better, and some who actually do) insisting that nothing is anybody's fault. Worse even than that mad claim is the argument to the effect that the blame for all injury, all loss (see the still echoing Barlow Clowes scandal, in which investors lost money when the company collapsed, and were compensated from public funds), all hurt, all failure, even all disappointment, is to be laid at the door of impersonal conditions, particularly, of course, the hostile capitalist environment. As for the fact that some individuals have, innately, greater talents than others, it is denied on all sides, amid claims to make it a crime to assert such elitist theories.

Oh, yes, Nanny RAC and Nanny AN are also blessing their approval, and Nanny Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents is demanding that the government should go further and insist that all cars must at once be fitted with back-seat belts (at present cars without them — there aren't many, because for some years now all manufacturers have been fitting them — can carry on unbelted, at least until the Minister for Roads wants another photo-call). And of course the Labour shadow minister, Joan Ruddock, insisted, when the announcement was made, that the legislation should be brought in immediately instead of, as is planned, in the middle of next year; there is nothing like a new chance of ordering people about to bring the left to its feet.

As for the drunken Mr Morris, who nearly got himself killed and then sued for the injuries he brought upon himself, my counsel to him is to wait. Somewhere, in some corner of some ministry, with tears of sympathy running down her cheeks, Nanny is working on his case.

Boyes was partly repentant yesterday. After apologising to the Speaker he told the Diary: "I am running a campaign for sensible photography in the House of Commons. The present system is crazy: eight large television cameras are beaming film all over the world but a few cameras are not allowed in. It does not make sense." To which Tory backbencher Dame Janet Fookes retorted: "MPs are entitled to try to change the rules, but while they are there they should be honoured."

Nehru remembered

The Queen, great-great-granddaughter of the first Emperor of India, opens the new Nehru gallery at the Victoria and Albert museum today with the symbolic lighting of a lamp, a customary method of inauguration throughout the subcontinent. She should feel at home amid the oriental splendour of the £2.2m gallery despite its incongruous setting in the heart of genteel South Kensington; many of the 30,000 pieces of art on show are on loan from the British royal collection.

Much of the rest on show dates from the 1870s, when William Jones, an academic working for the East India Company, founded the Asiatic Society of Bengal and began collecting Indian art. One notable absence from the gallery is Mrs Thatcher, who launched the appeal for the gallery two years ago. "I expect she has other things on her mind," says a V&A spokesman sympathetically. The British Indian community, which contributed £400,000 to the cost of the gallery, will be there in force.

Failing to click

Labour MP who broke the rules by photographing the chaotic scenes outside the room where the Tory leadership vote was announced is in trouble with the Westminster authorities. To compound his offence, Roland Boyes, a keen amateur photographer, sold the picture to *The Independent*.

A spokesman for the Sergeant at Arms said: "Photographs are not permitted of the committee corridor when the House is in session, even by MPs."

In tooth and claw

The long-running feud in the Scottish Office between Malcolm Rifkind, the secretary of state, and junior minister Michael Forsyth is beginning to project a greener image. Conservationists blame the disharmony between the two men for a five-week delay in establishing the new Scottish nature conservancy body. One of three established following the reorganisation of the Nature Conservancy Council.

Rifkind is believed to favour those sympathetic to the aims of the old NCC, while Forsyth is understood to be arguing for greater representation for com-

mercial foresters and large landowners. Although membership of the English and Welsh bodies was announced last month, the Scottish Office says ministers are still looking at a list of candidates.

"This typifies the incompetent way the government has handled the reorganisation from the start," says Steve Berry, from the old NCC headquarters in Peterborough. "We cannot recruit staff and organise for Scotland until a council is established."

Just too divine

What exactly will Emperor Akhito of Japan do tonight during the mystical *dajidosai* ceremony that completes his enthronement? For years journalists and scholars have sought to crack the mystery, but without success. Many Shinto traditionalists believe that during the ceremony, held in a specially built shrine, the new emperor will engage in sexual union with Amaterasu, the sun goddess and legendary founder of the Japanese nation, signifying the unbroken physical continuity of the world's oldest dynasty. This is the imperial household's formal deity.

Another theory is that, during the night, Akhito will be reborn to assume divine nature. On this, the government says it is in no position to say whether he will or not. This pussy-footing has angered progressive Japanese, who see it as

After the memoirs, predicts Lord Callaghan, the Labour prime minister ousted by Mrs Thatcher, there will still be plenty to do. "I never put my feet up. I have almost as much to do out of office as in," he says. And what special advice can he offer to someone who may be about to join that most exclusive club of former prime ministers? "I do not know what sort of advice she might find acceptable."

The words of a prime minister: "You wouldn't understand. It's a drug worse than alcohol. It's impossible to give up. Either you're hooked out or you're carried out."

Sir James Percival, fictitious inhabitant of 10 Downing Street, in a 1975 novel entitled *Vote to Kill* — by Douglas Hurd.

DIARY

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...and moreover

CLEMENT FREUD

Charity is alive and well: "cold as charity" should be expunged from the Book of Common Epithets. When the Downs Syndrome Association's Odyssey Ball was held last Friday (a function about which I wrote with apprehension earlier this month) we raised forty-something thousand pounds; as the exemplar of the white heat of charity, one generous man bid more than £200 for a pedestrian picture of Mike Gatting.

This week I am working in Windermere, where it really is cold. I am staying in a hotel; that is cold also. On the first night my bed was so glacial that I was unable to sleep and when, after an early breakfast, I walked into the village in search of warmth, the shop windows were frosted to an extent at which it was difficult to tell who was trying to sell what behind which. A grocer's shop displayed tins of Uncle Joe's Mint Balls; I expect they were quite especially cold. Sudder's Craft Bakery have Run Nickys: they sounded warm and comforting, turned out to be pudding-type cakes: weren't.

Booths, the excellent local grocers, sells Walbertwhaitie's wonderful Cumberland sausages; would that I travelled with a portable stove. I sentled for a cup of hot chocolate in their tea-shop.

An anthropologist plying his trade in the Lake District in November would presume it to be an out-station of the Japanese empire. To go with the nip in the air there are oriental citizens on the ground as far as the eye can see. In the Fellsmann café, a sometime Sumo wrestler eats black pudding with chopsticks; his trainer encourages him noisily. A quartet of Japanese girls with back-packs are walking down the incline from the station, past the arcade of boarding-houses showing "vacancy" boards ("no vacancy" is boarding-house-speak for "closed"). One girl stops to look at a map. The other three take her photograph. A Japanese couple stand very close to one another in the phone box, not phoning.

The Magic Wok is closed; a woman is unlocking the door of the kitchen shop; Lake Fisheries is open — the quality of smoked

mackerel fillets in the window would cause a discriminating purchaser to break step.

At 10am on Tuesday I bought a hot water bottle at Boots and the assistant said: "Fourth bottle I've sold this morning, where are you staying?"

I am non-committal. The assistant says: "Probably in the same place as all the other folk who've bought bottles." I say: "Possibly." A guest does not bite the hand that feeds him, even if — as Puccini put it — the "hand is frozen" ("tiny" was only put into the text so that it would scan).

Sir Robert Scott in his Antarctic diaries wrote: "Dear God this is an awful place." Surely Windermere is better than that. On my first evening, after the day's work was done, I gave the village another chance. You can tell the quality of a place by what goes on there after the witching hour. (Witching hour in Windermere is around 8.45pm. The all-night café closes at 5.30 in the afternoon.) First thing I noticed was that the Japanese had gone; next that the pub and the fish and chip shop, the Magic Wok and the oriental restaurant were open. I chose the oriental restaurant, where a litre of house wine costs £3.75. Ask for that, a portion of three, one of seven and half a 12. The waiter multiplies my selection and brings a huge bowl of 126.

I remember running a by-election in the 1970s in which I asked the Liberal agent for a profile of the constituency. Under "average age of electorate" he wrote "deceased". Not quite as bad as that in Cumbria, but the price of housing has gone up, causing the young people to move down — to Preston, Lancaster, Liverpool, wherever. Seventy thousand pounds for a three-up and two-down with a garden the size of a table cloth makes little appeal to first-time home buyers. For all that Wordsworth wrote, for all the beauty of the mountains and the fells and the lakes, a local economy based on tourists and sheep affords small opportunity for the young.

Of the people who are left, no one mentioned Mrs Thatcher on Tuesday evening or on Wednesday. But then, they had not spoken of her on Monday or Tuesday afternoon either.

Pensioner, but plenty to offer

It may be a little premature but it was a sign of how disheartened Mrs Thatcher's camp was yesterday that talk was already rife at Westminster about the job prospects of a former prime minister.

Lord Harris of High Cross, an apostle of monetarism and a staunch ally, predicts a lucrative new career for Mrs Thatcher touring the world as an elder statesman. He already has one engagement in mind. He wants to take her to Moscow in the New Year to open the Soviet Union's first Thatcherite think-tank, the Centre for Liberal Conservative Policy, with which he is closely involved.

She had to refuse an earlier invitation because of pressure of work, but Harris says: "If she is no longer prime minister she will be able to come after all. The Russians want her. They believe she is an exceptional politician, whether she is prime minister or not. Taking her to Moscow will be my only comfort if she loses."

The other obvious path open to Mrs Thatcher is to write her memoirs, possibly ghosted by Bernard Ingham, who would almost certainly take early retirement if Mrs Thatcher goes. Faber and Faber, who were planning an authorised biography of Ingham next January, moved swiftly yesterday to ensure that it is not overtaken by events. They asked the author, Robert Harris, to write a new chapter immediately and fax it to the printers. The book, *Good and Faithful Servant*, is being printed and bound today and will be in the shops on Monday week.

After the memoirs, predicts Lord Callaghan, the Labour prime minister ousted by Mrs Thatcher, there will still be plenty to do. "I never put my feet up. I have almost as much to do out of office as in," he says. And what special advice can he offer to someone who may be about to join that most exclusive club of former prime ministers? "I do not know what sort of advice she might find acceptable."

The words of a prime minister: "You wouldn't understand. It's a drug worse than alcohol. It's impossible to give up. Either you're hooked out or you're carried out."

Sir James Percival, fictitious inhabitant of 10 Downing Street, in a 1975 novel entitled *Vote to Kill* — by Douglas Hurd.

DIARY

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DIARY



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

A WIDER FIELD

In went the grey suits. They laid the pistol on the table, tipped out... and heard a fusillade of shots aimed at their departing backs. Margaret Thatcher will clearly leave the British political scene as she has dominated it for 15 years: in her own way. Yesterday she decided as feeble-hearted the apparitions who told her she will lose to Michael Heseltine next Tuesday. She disregarded advice to stand down in favour of a Douglas Hurd candidature. She was not to be bundled out of Downing Street by hoary appeals to whips' statistics, party decency or even personal dignity. Mrs Thatcher is in her Kipling mode. She will meet with triumph and disaster, and treat those two impostors just the same.

The bases on which Mrs Thatcher's supporters, including *The Times*, were still prepared to back her on Tuesday night were twofold. The first was straightforward. She was elected three years ago to a full term, has not departed from her mandate or suffered physical or mental collapse and leads a government in redeemable difficulty with continued vigour. That basis remains valid. Mrs Thatcher was, and remains, a plausible leader for the Conservative party through the next election.

The second basis was more specific. A British prime minister is not a stand-alone president, although Mrs Thatcher has sometimes done well by impersonating one. A prime minister must have democratic legitimacy during as well as at the end of a parliament, and this depends on the collective support of a party in parliament. This is not just some Bagehotian constitutional dictum. It holds the key to future electoral appeal. It also holds the key to consistency in government when public support may be in short supply (as now), and when the cabinet needs to stand together.

Mrs Thatcher enjoyed the support of her cabinet, in varying degrees of enthusiasm, through the first ballot for the leadership. Not one of them is believed to have voted for Mr Heseltine. Few are likely to vote for him even on a second ballot. Mrs Thatcher won a clear majority of MPs and, with opinion polls giving her a lead over Mr Heseltine among Tory voters, she feels entitled to continue to a second ballot. She now needs only to hold the genuine enthusiasm — not just the group loyalty — of her colleagues, improve her lamentable campaign team and assure herself of the likelihood of a straight majority next time round.

These requirements are in serious doubt. The prime minister was told yesterday that

possibly two thirds of her cabinet want her to stand down and that she would be unlikely to secure anything like a majority on the second ballot. Both Mr Hurd and Mr Major were less than swift, and certainly less than fulsome, in their renewed endorsement of her candidature. There has been no upsurge in supportive statements from the younger party figures, such as Kenneth Clarke, Chris Patten, William Waldegrave, Tim Renton, on behalf of the whips' patronage machine, and the officers of the backbench 1922 Committee have expressed their concern at her clinging to power. In this hour of personal peril, she needed the same cohesion as a government needs when in collective peril. She has not got it. Time was when she would have been out on her ear.

However, the party now plays by rules, and these rules have purpose. That purpose is to allow a "loyalty vote" on the first ballot, but open the field to new challengers in the second. Mrs Thatcher is clearly holding Messrs Hurd and Major to their first round promises. This is wrong in principle and unwise if she regards stopping Mr Heseltine as a prime aim. On present showing, she is probably handing Mr Heseltine her job on a plate as well as depriving her party of a wider choice of new leader, including a leader who might have a better chance than she (if one exists) of stopping Mr Heseltine.

The honourable course would now be for Mrs Thatcher to release her two plainly reluctant colleagues, Messrs Hurd and Major, from their loyalty pledges, to run against her and Mr Heseltine if they wish. This would meet the spirit of the leadership rules, find the strongest "stop-Heseltine" candidate and mitigate some of the anger in the parliamentary party at being deprived of a proper second round choice.

The entry of other candidates would almost certainly prevent Mr Heseltine from getting the necessary 187 votes for outright victory. The contest would then move to a third round, in which second preferences could be counted. By the end of the process, MPs would have a leader freely chosen from the upper echelons of the party. Such a leader, who might be Mrs Thatcher, would have an unchallengeable right to loyalty through the next election, a right Mrs Thatcher cannot now claim. That leader will have passed trial by fire and water.

The party, however, could with reason quote Kipling back at its leader: "If blood be the price of admittance / Lord God, we ha' paid in full!"

STABILISING EUROPE

The signing of the Charter of Europe in Paris yesterday was a moving celebration of the end of the Cold War. But there was anxiety present. At this week's Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, leader after leader from Eastern Europe warned Western governments not to start banking the peace dividend yet. They do not feel confident of containing nationalism, ethnic tension and political extremism without a Western commitment to help them if things go badly wrong.

The West must take these warnings seriously, and must decide what emphasis to put on economic assistance and how far to be drawn into putting out small but potentially contagious brush-fires. Above all, Western governments must decide whether they view the maintenance of stability in Eastern Europe as a vital national as well as international interest. The answer must be yes, but the implications are costly.

Eastern Europe's own governments must bear the main responsibility for sorting out their problems. But the costs of repairing the economic and environmental ravages of communism far exceed these countries' means. The West has promised economic assistance, tied to political as well as economic reforms. The main vehicles are the IMF and the World Bank, institutions which — however hard these categories are to separate — take economic, not political, criteria into account.

Hence the West's creation of a new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), intended to give a distinctively political dimension to lending. In theory, the EBRD could use financial leverage to persuade governments to solve internal conflicts peacefully — where they are capable of doing so. The EBRD, however, is not yet operational and, with an initial capital base of only \$14 billion, its leverage will be modest.

These countries, moreover, seek not only economic aid, closer political dialogue and economic integration with the West but some

sort of co-operation on security. They want Western help to control ethnic conflicts and to guard against the possibility, raised by Hungary's prime minister, Jozsef Antall, that "disappointed military men might attempt to bar the way to the development of democracy". The two possible vehicles for conciliation are the 34-nation CSCE and Nato.

Czechoslovakia and Hungary explicitly look to Nato, described by President Václav Havel as Europe's "guarantee of freedom and democracy", as the only available functioning security organisation. Nato is not about to create peacekeeping forces to prise Czechs and Slovaks, or Bulgarians and Turks, apart. But Western leaders, as they rethink Nato's role, should keep the enthusiasm in Eastern Europe for its continued existence as an unequivocally military alliance firmly in mind.

For the first time, the CSCE has been given a permanent secretariat in Prague and an office in Warsaw to help with free elections. In addition, states will be able to take disputes to a CSCE conflict prevention centre in Vienna. The hope is that this could help to prevent the outbreak of dangerous little wars over disputed frontiers, provided that workable voluntary conciliation procedures (a British idea) and dispute-settlement machinery are established. But will governments be prepared to accept external mediation of internal disputes, likely to be the commonest cause of instability?

Intervention in a nation's domestic affairs is untested, and justly sensitive, international ground, but even at the height of the Cold War, the CSCE made a start on this with human rights. Preparedness to accept arbitration might now be made a condition of economic aid. To qualify, Yugoslavia might for example have to accept independent mediation between Croats and Serbs. The costs of stability in Eastern Europe will have to be shared, even if the East's contribution involves some possible diminution of the independence its people have fought so hard to win.

DUKES AND DUSTMEN

Is the working class still with us? This question, long debated by middle-class intellectuals, is now being thrashed out in the High Court. In the Westminster v. Westminster case, the House of Lords is concerned with seven blocks of Lutyns-designed flats in Fulham. They were leased to Westminster Council by the Duke of Westminster in 1937 on condition that they be used as "dwellings for the working classes... and for no other purpose". Britain's richest aristocrat, the present Duke of Westminster, is a disarming display of *noblesse oblige*, is defending the working classes against the grocer's daughter, Lady Porter, leader of Westminster Council. She claims that in Mrs Thatcher's people's democracy the term "working class" has no meaning, and wants to sell off the leases to anybody.

Karl Marx, who spent most of his life studying the class system in capitalist economies, defined members of the working class — "labour" — as those who were paid for their work by those who owned capital. His working class was a proletarian mass seething with class war, yearning to break its chains. Lady Porter looks around and sees them not, least of all in the wealthy quarters of Westminster.

Perhaps the working class comprises simply those who believe themselves to be working class. A skilled panelbeater at the Ford works in Dagenham, with his own house, two cars and a timeshare in Marbella, earns more and

lives more comfortably than the graduate teacher of his children. Today he may say that he feels working-class, while the teacher next door may use the middle class label. But will their children believe it? The evidence is that class identity is declining.

The court, however, may prove impatient with such sociology. For the aim of the Westminster leases — to enable poorer people to live decently in London — cannot be ignored. One of London's great merits has always been that most of its boroughs house a social cross-section of people. Chelsea is grand, but it boasts a fair sprinkling of cheap council accommodation. Hackney is poor, but many young professional families are moving in.

The poorest section of the community should have the chance to live in central London. A good social mix enriches the city. It reduces traffic congestion, since those doing lower-paid jobs in the centre do not have to travel in from the suburbs. The Duke of Westminster's ancestor had a laudable aim which even a government committed to home ownership recognises by its support for housing associations. Lady Porter's anxiety to extend home ownership is understandable, especially since the more she can sell the homes for, the lower the poll tax she has to charge. But for the poor, market mechanisms are not always enough.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Preparing for round two in Tory leadership fight

From Lord Rippon of Hexham, QC

Sir, Mr Norman Tebbit and others of her supporters have clearly implied that they would rather lose a general election under Mrs Thatcher than win one under Mr Heseltine. That is not the view of 168 Conservative MPs. Nor is it that of the majority of Conservatives in the country whose views have been expressed very clearly in one opinion poll after another.

I do not believe the Conservative party can or will be united under Mrs Thatcher. Accordingly it would be in the best interests of both the party and the country that she should now step down gracefully, rightfully proud of her past record and secure in the knowledge that she will have done her duty.

Most peers have felt that up to this point it was not appropriate for them to participate directly by lobbying publicly for one candidate or another but I for one have been appalled by some of the tactics and comments of Mrs Thatcher's supporters.

On one issue in particular I am sure Mr Heseltine is right. The poll tax bears unduly harshly on too many people and urgently needs reconsideration. The case for the poll tax rested fundamentally on the argument that it would make local authorities free and accountable to their own local electors. Rate-capping in the new circumstances would thus, according to Mr Kenneth Baker's assertion of the time, be "intellectually dishonest".

Ever more importantly it would be fairer, as Mr Heseltine suggests, for the burden of expenditure which is settled nationally to be borne nationally. Mr Heseltine's proposal for reform is not only sound but was originally supported by Mrs Thatcher herself when she said in a policy statement on August 28, 1974, that

In the medium term we shall transfer to central government the cost of teachers' salaries up to a specified number of teachers for each local authority. Expenditure on police and the fire services will be shared equally between the Exchequer. We shall see that this saving is passed on to the ratepayer.

Yours faithfully,
RIPON OF HEXHAM,
2 Paper Buildings,
Temple, E.C.A.
November 21.

From Sir Eldon Griffiths, MP for Bury St Edmunds (Conservative)

Sir, This is the fourth Conservative leadership contest in which I have been involved. It is imperative that we bring the agony to a speedy end. My loyalty, and admiration, for Margaret Thatcher have never been in doubt. I think she is marvellous. Reluctantly, however, I cannot support her on the second ballot: first, because Britain needs a prime minister with unimpaired authority. Now that 152 Conservative members have positively withheld their support from her, Mrs Thatcher no longer commands that kind of authority, at home or abroad.

Secondly, because in the House and in the country the issue of the prime minister's leadership will continue to rankle if, despite so large a vote for a change, Mrs Thatcher continues in office. Our divisions will be prolonged, thereby bringing closer what Mr Heseltine has rightly described as the "ultimate disaster" of a Labour government.

The prime minister is no quitter. She has a great deal still to offer to our country, not least her lion-hearted courage, vision and

experience. It is these qualities that should now lead her to do two things for Britain: to make room at the top for a fresh leader; to help re-unite our party by agreeing to serve, not necessarily in the cabinet but in some other way, the new administration which her successor must rapidly form.

Who should that new leader be? In my judgment, as one who has no personal axe to grind, the best choice is Mr Heseltine, my colleague in Government as long ago as 1970-4.

Michael has proved his maturity and political sophistication by his conduct of his campaign over the past week. He will make mincemeat of Mr Kinnoch in the House, on television and on the hustings. Most important, he has experience, and success, in the management of both overseas and domestic policies at the Department of the Environment, the Department of Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of Defence. Neither Mr Douglas Hurd nor Mr John Major as yet can offer this combination which is so crucial to the office of prime minister.

Yours etc,
ELDON GRIFFITHS,
House of Commons,
November 21.

From Sir Ian Percival, QC

Sir, By what process of reason is it to be said that a candidate with 55 per cent should withdraw whilst one with 41 per cent goes on?

Last night several commentators, in their excitement no doubt, made a bull point of the fact that 152 voted against Mrs Thatcher. Is it not a better point that 204 voted for her and against her opponent?

Mr Heseltine's supporters think well enough of us who support Mrs Thatcher to assume that we would fall in behind him and fight for him if he were to win, even by one vote. No doubt we may assume that he and his supporters would act equally honourably and loyally if the boot were to be on the other foot.

Surely there is one single and simple factor which outweighs all else.

Mrs Thatcher is without question one of the great political figures of the world. So long as she speaks for us our voice will be heard and our influence felt in the councils of the world. And the rest of the world appreciates the immense importance of that at this stage.

In particular the president and people of the United States of America have paid generous tribute to the support and guidance she has given to them in the black days since Kuwait was invaded.

Yours etc,
IAN PERCIVAL,
5 Paper Buildings,
Temple, E.C.A.
November 21.

From Mr Peter Temple-Morris, MP for Leominster (Conservative)

Sir, When some colleagues argue that a new leader could not unite the party they should consider two earlier cases when the Conservative party, in power, changed leaders amidst party acrimony. In 1963 the party was so badly split over the choice of Sir Alec Douglas-Home that Iain MacLeod and Enoch Powell refused to join his cabinet, yet the party did get its act together and dramatically closed the opinion poll gap.

Equally, when Harold Macmillan, not Rab Butler, became prime minister after Sir Alec Douglas-Home had been elected, the party united around him so that between the spring of 1957 and the

summer of 1958 a 13-point gap was turned into a winning margin.

Yours faithfully,
PETER TEMPLE-MORRIS,
House of Commons,
November 21.

From Sir Bryan Askew

Sir, I find it very strange that 16 MPs who, at each election they have fought, must have exhorted their constituents to vote now themselves abstain or deliberately spoil their voting papers.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN ASKEW,
27 Golf Links Avenue,
Tadcaster, North Yorkshire,
November 21.

From Mr Kenneth Stern

Sir, Since 1950 I have voted Conservative in every election, national and local. After the disgraceful behaviour of a large part of the Conservative parliamentary party in the last few days I shall never do so again, even though my member is an honourable man.

A system which allows a clique of envious pygmies to attempt to pull down a giant of world stature must be wrong. The whole affair shows contempt for the electorate. Yours faithfully,
KENNETH STERN,
555 Park West, W2,
November 21.

From Mr Maurice Cowin

Sir, The first ballot for the Tory party leadership has brought delight to all opposition parties, and amazement to many other countries.

I am concerned that it is a secret ballot: I consider constituents should be allowed to know for whom their MP voted. Secondly, why are abstentions allowed? Surely we elect MPs to make decisions.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE COWIN,
84 Cromford Road, SW18,
November 21.

From Mr M. R. Campbell

Sir, If Mr Heseltine is more than merely ambitious, he should now say, "I will stand down if she will". He would lose his possible prize but would gain immensely in respect. Mrs Thatcher would be under strong pressure and could scarcely refuse, and the field would be open for a reasonable election for a new leader.

Yours etc,
MALCOLM CAMPBELL,
Ross Cottage, Sutton Benger,
Chippingham, Wiltshire,
November 21.

From Mr J. F. Penley

Sir, What we have been witnessing is a vote not on the leadership but on the question of confidence in the prime minister.

Mrs Thatcher should now display the graciousness which has recently been sadly lacking and make way for someone who can defeat Michael Heseltine before it is too late.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. PENLEY,
The Gables, 18 The Street,
Uley, Dursley,
Gloucestershire,
November 20.

From Mr W. L. L. Lambeth

Sir, So 152 MPs have combined to score yet another Conservative own goal. Will Mr Heseltine now have the sense to retrieve the ball from the net and leave the field?

Yours faithfully,
W. L. L. LAMBETH,
Old Glynys, Chiddingstone,
Epsom, Surrey,
November 20.

has become prevalent throughout the country. This reduces the buying power of the wholesalers and forces market prices down. The position is worsened by the extended credit terms that the supermarkets demand from wholesalers. Meat purchased is sold to the consumer long before the wholesaler is paid.

We have now reached the stage where the price of a pound of lamb chops moves from 60p (the average price per pound for the average in the market this summer) to 65p as it leaves the wholesaler (rather more if the wholesaler is able to vacuum-pack the chops), and to £2.50 to £4 on the supermarket shelf.

The same sort of price progression occurs in most other agricultural commodities. In the case of beef its very expense is depressing demand and is a significant cause of the so-called "beef mountain".

Yours etc,
JAMES GIBSON-WATT,
Boatside Farm, Hay on Wye,
Hereford.

per month, while still increasing, lie at the optimistic end of those forecast in 1988, is no reason for complacency.

Over the question of when, if ever, the heterosexual cases might form a majority, I have at no time made a statement. The uncertainty is such that the most that can reasonably be said is that the number and proportion are likely to rise for the next few years.

HIV infection leads to Aids usually only after a substantial number of years. To argue that because the number of Aids cases in the heterosexual component of the epidemic is currently small therefore discussion of the issue is "hysteria" is short-termism carried to a dangerous extreme. The publication referred to above reviews the evidence in a calm and rational way.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID COX, Warden,
Nuffield College, Oxford.

Blowing whistle on disaster

From Professor Gerald Vinten

Sir, The repetitive litany of another committee of enquiry is with us yet again — this time with the announcement of Lord Cullen's findings on the Piper Alpha disaster (report, November 13). It would almost be possible to write a common core report that would readily apply to every variety of disaster: the findings of previous reports concealed or not acted on; lack of independence or effectiveness of inspectors; failure to adopt a participative management style and, worst, the "not required back" stamp for those employees who dare complain of health and safety abuses.

In the US there is more recognition of the positive role that "whistle-blowing" may play in averting disaster, whether it be life-threatening, food hygiene, fraud and theft of public funds, or contract overcharging. This is now enshrined in a growing number of whistle-blowing protection clauses in a wide variety of acts, from the toxic substances control act to the federal mine health and safety act and the civil service reform act. In the case of the civil service there is even the Office of the Special Counsel to protect whistle-blowers, although so far this has lacked effectiveness.

It may be time to legislate here in the public interest. The deaths of 167 people should be enough to overturn official complacency. If we cannot introduce the more humane industrial relations practices of the Norwegians on their rigs, then let us at least install anonymous telephone hotlines, and have safety ombudsmen, so that those who know, and will suffer the consequences, will have a sure means of communication.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD VINTEN,
City University Business School,
Franklin Crescent,
Barbican Centre, EC2,
November 13.

Ethics of 'just war'

From Mr E. G. Nugge, QC

Sir, The president of the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship (November 10) is of course right in saying that when the Emperor Constantine became converted to Christianity the church seized the opportunity which this offered to use the power of the state in an attempt to extend Christ's kingdom through the world.

To say, however, as he does, that it should not have done so, that it should not have tried to exercise a Christian influence on the government of the empire because Jesus rejected the temptation to seek worldly power, is to abandon any hope of betterment through political means and to fall into the sin of despair.

To a Christian it is surely preferable that kings and emperors, presidents and prime ministers, should be Christian men and women, guided by Christian principles as they understand them, than that they should not. They cannot reasonably opt out of their responsibilities in government on the ground that "the exercise of worldly power through the state" should be left to non-Christians.

Yours faithfully,
E. G. NUGGE,
Wilberforce Chambers,
3 New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
November 19.

Synod creation

From the Right Reverend J. W. Roxburgh

Sir, Your third leader (November 14) asserts that the dynamic behind the creation of the General Synod in 1970 was the need for some alternative to parliamentary control of prayer book revision.

No, Sir. The dynamic behind the creation of the General Synod was the need to bring bishops, clergy and laity together in a real legislative partnership. The three houses sat together in the old Church Assembly, but only the bishops and clergy were trusted to decide on matters of faith and doctrine. To bring all three houses into the decision-making process on issues other than finance was the great hope of the General Synod's founding fathers.

Yours truly,
JAMES ROXBURGH,
53 Preston Road,
Southport, Merseyside.

Eating by numbers

From Mr Richard Need

Sir, This month my youngest daughter, aged 12, is a "vegetarian" who is happy to eat fish, eggs, milk and cheese. Another, adult, daughter who has experimented for years with different eating styles is presently eating everything except red meat.

Would it not be a great help to parents, hosts and hostesses, and other meal-planners if there were a simple classification system so that those who do not eat on the standard broad front can indicate quickly what they are currently chewing and eschewing?

May I suggest V1 to denote a rejection of red meat; V2, red meat and poultry; V3, all flesh including fish; V4, all flesh and dairy products. There would probably have to be sub-classifications to cover rabbit, game, snails and frogs' legs, but this would do for starters.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD NEED,
11 Hemmingsford Road,
Chesham, Surrey,
November 19.

The cost of food

From Mr James Gibson-Watt

Sir, The news (report, November 8) of another exceptionally profitable half-year for the Sainsbury supermarket chain, shortly after Tesco's record-breaking figures (report, September 20), has been met with wry smiles throughout the farming communities of the UK. It is no surprise to farmers selling their produce in the current depressed agricultural markets that the big retailers are taking full advantage of their extremely powerful trading position in the "free" markets of farm produce.

We have five big retailers controlling the sale of well over half of all food marketed. Livestock farmers are concerned because most meat is sold through these retailers rather than through the fast-disappearing local butchers.

As a result, supermarkets have gained enormous power over the wholesalers, who are the farmers' main customers, and the familiar downward price pressure tactic

Aids report

From the Warden of Nuffield College

Sir, The Director of Family and Youth Concern, in her comments (November 18) on the meeting that introduced last month's publication by the all-party parliamentary group on Aids, *The Heterosexual Population at Risk?*, suggests that "another wave of hysteria" is involved.

She ignores evidence from other countries, in particular from continental Europe and the United States. In commenting on previous predictions she ignores careful statements that because of the very uncertain nature of predictions from incomplete information only a range of possibilities can be given.

She reports as the prediction for 1992 one explicitly labelled as pessimistic. The good news that numbers of new diagnoses of Aids

Helping offenders

From Mr Leslie Jerman

Sir, In 1986 the Home Office issued a discussion paper on reparation in the criminal justice system. Among matters put forward was the question of whether victims should meet offenders and whether this might prove of value. I believe it might.

My house was burgled in 1980. With the help of his probation officer I was able to meet one of the intruders who was then 17, and was also able to save him from a custodial sentence. I believed it to be of more value to help him than to kick him.

He has been out of trouble now for nearly a decade (with some minor hiccups). He told me at one point that if he had not been given conditional discharge on several outstanding cases (I had written to the clerk of the court in his support) he would have gone to prison for five years, this at a rising cost of some £13,000 a year, with dubious benefits.

I do not believe prison does much good, if any, to anyone, least of all the taxpayer. I have experience of 23 jails, having become a prison visitor as a result of the initial encounter.

Last May the Home Office published a report on experiments carried out (at considerable cost) which brought victims and offenders together. It was given very little publicity at the time and is also inconclusive.

Moreover, the new criminal justice bill (report, November 10) appears virtually to ignore the value of such encounters.

And I am, yours sincerely,
LESLIE JERMAN,
Rushbrooke, Coppice Row,
Thetford, Norfolk,
November 10.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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Applications forms and further details may be obtained from the Personnel Office, (R0), Cranfield University, Cranfield, Bedfordshire, MK43 0AL. Tel: (0793) 785421 or 715403 quoting ref SSMSC 12/90. Informal enquiries, in confidence, to Professor A Brown. Tel: (0793) 785355. Closing date: Friday 21st December 1990.

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Computer giant cuts the cost of penalty clauses

A requirement by a large computer services company that certain trainees sign contracts agreeing to pay their employers thousands of pounds for training if they leave within three years is one of the most controversial in the industry.

Now the company, Electronic Data Systems, has reduced the penalties on its graduate information technology (IT) trainees. The company, which says the penalties are necessary to recoup training costs if an employee leaves before giving a payback period of service, has won a court case that challenged the legality of the contract.

However, the period has been cut from three to two years and the amount the trainees have to pay is to be assessed on a sliding scale linked to every month they remain with the company.

Previously, employees taking part in the company's systems engineering development (SED) graduate training programme had to agree to pay up to £4,500.

This applied if they resigned or were dismissed after signing to join the second and third stages of the SED programme, and normally after being employed by the company for about a year.

Such "training contracts" have been criticised by the unions and by large IT employers, such as Digital Equipment and ICL, although computer services companies are divided on their use.

Former employees of Electronic Data Systems argue that the contracts mean they cannot resign if they feel aggrieved about being made to work regular overtime without pay or are dissatisfied with other personnel matters.

"We cannot say what the average amount of overtime is, but we provide a service and we have deadlines to meet," says Sharmen Walker, a company spokeswoman, adding that the contract "applies to resignations and to people who are dismissed for gross misconduct".

Staff and the unions have a surprising ally in computer manufacturers, which remain

JOBSCEENE

opposed to training contracts and are the largest employers of IT staff.

"I am emphatically against these agreements," says Peter Forbes, ICL's graduate recruitment manager. "Putting penalties on recruitment might be seen as a deterrent to joining. The most effective contract is one that both parties enter freely."

This view is backed by Digital Equipment. "A training contract is not worth the paper it is written on," says Barry Seward-Thompson, the head of the company's training college. "If a staff member does not want to stay, it is no good forcing them as they will not be motivated."

Most other IT companies have tackled staff turnover in a different way and have adopted positive inducements, such as bonuses, if staff stay for a specified period.

British Airways introduced such a scheme when competing with other airlines for a group of specialist and highly trained IT staff developing ticketing and reservation systems.

The training contract has been rejected as a means of reducing staff turnover by senior and IT managers in the National Computing Centre's working party on the skills shortage. Some computing services organisations, however, are now considering similar contracts. Only one other company, Roco Services, is known to require IT staff to sign such contracts, but it says it is unlikely to ask employees to repay training costs if they leave.

"Training contracts were discussed by our members after the court case and they were evenly divided on the issue," says Sue Robinson, the chair of the Computer Services Association's personnel group. "But some members noted that new employers are prepared to repay a job candidate's training fee to the previous employer if they join the company."

Staff and the unions have a surprising ally in computer manufacturers, which remain

Graduates once had to pay up to £4,500 if they left or were dismissed

Sea shells have helped scientists find a ceramic tough enough for a car engine. Nigel Hawkes reports

Keep going well on shell

The old dream of building a car engine that runs red hot, without the need for coolants, may be a step closer, thanks to work by scientists at ICI's advanced materials laboratory in Runcorn, Cheshire.

An engine of this kind would be simpler and more efficient than present-day designs, but it would need to be made of materials with unusual properties.

Ceramics are the only materials that can easily sustain the temperatures needed, but they lack the toughness needed for most engineering applications. Anybody who has ever dropped the crockery will know how fragile conventional ceramics are.

Dr William Clegg and his colleagues at ICI have been examining ways of making ceramics that are both cheap and tough. They have examined the secrets of marine animals and taken sea shells as their model to produce a new kind of ceramic consisting of layers of hard material separated by thinner layers of softer interlayer.

Paradoxically, the addition of the soft material makes the final product tougher, rather than weaker.

Mother of pearl, which is found in some sea shells, consists of layers of calcium carbonate loosely bound together with an organic substance. Sheets of mother of pearl do not snap easily because cracks developing in

one layer do not spread to others, but are deflected at the weak joint between the layers.

Dr Clegg and his team have copied this idea, using the ceramic silicon carbide. They have bound together thin layers of silicon carbide by coating them with graphite and then heating and pressing them together.

The graphite acts as a glue that is strong enough to hold the laminated sheets together under normal conditions but comes apart if cracks develop in the layers. This allows the material to absorb the energy of an impact by shedding the first few layers.

The energy required to break this laminated silicon carbide is about 100 times greater than that for a solid block of the material without weak joints.

The material is cheap to make, and combines the extremely high melting point of a ceramic with the toughness of wood.

The group at ICI is now assessing the properties of the ceramic, to determine its likely uses.

The same methods might be adapted to other ceramics to produce materials with even better properties, suitable for heat shields on spacecraft, the leading edges of aircraft wings, gas turbine components and even, one day, the ceramic engine.



Cracked it: Dr Clegg used shells as a guide to making strong ceramics

Laser tweezers could help cure cancer

Doctor's tug-of-war device may pave way to gene therapy

Precision laser beam technology can now be used to make optical "tweezers" to hold and manipulate living cells, particles in cells or even individual atoms. The inventors of optical tweezers have used them to put microscopic "motor" molecules through their paces, but the technique could also help to achieve gene therapy, the treatment of genes that cause serious conditions such as cystic fibrosis or even cancer, making cures for these diseases possible.

In today's *Nature* magazine, researchers in the United States, led by Dr Arthur Ashkin, of AT&T Bell Laboratories in New Jersey, describe how they used optical tweezers in a kind of tug-of-war contest.

The skill and ingenuity of the researchers was matched

against the microscopic molecules that move cells and, ultimately, power everything from the tiniest microbial wimp to Arnold Schwarzenegger's rippling biceps.

Every time Schwarzenegger heaves a grenade-launcher, millions of myosin molecules go to work in his muscles. Every molecule is a microscopic motor that converts chemical energy into motion with an efficiency that would leave petrol-powered cars standing. Other molecular motors include kinesin and dynein, which transport materials and structures within cells. These motors move objects along rail networks of microtubules, much as locomotives haul freight cars along railway lines.

Dr Ashkin's group has been wrestling with mitochondria, tiny spherical parcels within the cells of the amoeba *Reticulomyxa*. Mitochondria are situated along microtubules within every *Reticulomyxa* cell by between one and four dynein molecules.

The researchers trapped a moving mitochondrion in the laser beam, abruptly reducing the power to match that of the motor molecules. At this point the mitochondrion could break free from the "tweezers". In this way, the researchers could work out just how much punch a dynein molecule packs.

The answer is about 2.5 im-

millions of a dyne, or a few thousand millionths of the force exerted by a gram weight. The force is hardly in the same league as an express train, but is very powerful when one remembers that motor molecules are miracles of natural miniaturisation.

The optical tweezers technique is based on the simple observation that objects trapped in an intense light beam tend to be pushed by the force of the light from the edge of the beam into the centre. The same force prevents the trapped object from escaping.

The system's advantage is that it is non-invasive. When attached to a microscope, lasers can be used to trap and manipulate living cells while they are being observed. Dr Ashkin's group started with a laser system based on visible light, but found the lasers

damaged the delicate cells and molecules. In 1987 they switched to using more benign infra-red lasers. They could then observe bacteria and yeast cells dividing.

Many other laboratories have since used optical tweezers to perform high-precision micro-manipulation. Dr Ashkin's team is working with doctors from Rutgers University, New Jersey, measuring the forces generated by sperm cells as they swim. Last year Dr Ashkin's group used the technique to perform microsurgery inside individual living cells. "This is something we will pursue a great deal more," Dr Ashkin says. He sees the potential for using tweezers in gene therapy as one of the developments.

"If we could stop the abnormal production of platelets at source, we could prevent clots forming, and that would have a tremendous impact on avoiding heart attacks."

As part of a new £100,000 research programme, funded by the British Heart Foundation, the bone marrow of about 50 men who have survived a heart attack or who are at high risk of suffering one, will be studied to gain insights into the changes that occur.

HENRY GEE

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Lethal side of making a clot of yourself

Can the human body fool itself into causing a heart attack? This "own goal" theory is being investigated by medical specialists in London.

Professor John Martin, who was recently appointed British Heart Foundation professor of cardiovascular science, is leading the world's first study into the role that bone marrow cells may play in triggering heart attacks.

He believes some attacks are caused by natural false alarms which deceive the body into producing unnecessary blood clots. The clots gather in coronary arteries because of misleading signals sent to the cells, called megakaryocytes, which combat bleeding, he says.

The study could lead to treatment to prevent the condition, which kills about 160,000 people a year in Britain, and to the development of methods to detect individuals at risk.

"We are hoping to answer fundamental questions about the origins of heart attacks," Professor Martin, based at King's College Hospital medical school, London, says.

He and his colleagues have invented a technique which, for the first time, allows detailed study of megakaryocytes. "These cells produce platelets which are necessary to prevent bleeding, but our research so far shows that they can be stimulated into action by wrong messages from blood vessels," Professor Martin says.

"The result is a clot that should only form as a natural defence against bleeding, but which gathers instead in the arteries, causing a coronary thrombosis."

"If we could stop the abnormal production of platelets at source, we could prevent clots forming, and that would have a tremendous impact on avoiding heart attacks."

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Are we born unto trouble?

Research suggests that some diseases in adulthood might be directly linked to the unborn child, Thomson Prentice reports

Insights into adult health are beginning to emerge from studies of the infant and the unborn child. Startling evidence has been found that the origins of heart disease, stroke and other serious illnesses can be traced back to the womb.

The findings challenge the traditional view of the womb as a safe and stress-free environment, and raise tantalising questions about the extent to which health and longevity are programmed during fetal development.

The answers may provoke new approaches to the nutritional care of mother and child, and to better methods of preventing and treating some life-threatening conditions.

Two important studies, one looking into the past, the other to the future, have been published by British scientists in the past few months and the work, which is discussed in this week's *British Medical Journal*, is causing intense interest among experts worldwide.

The studies coincide with an initiative launched in London yesterday by the Little Foundation, which was set up in co-operation with the World Federation of Neurology, to offer support to studies of fetal brain damage leading to mental and physical handicaps. The foundation is named after Dr Charles Little, who first diagnosed cerebral palsy at the London Hospital in 1860.

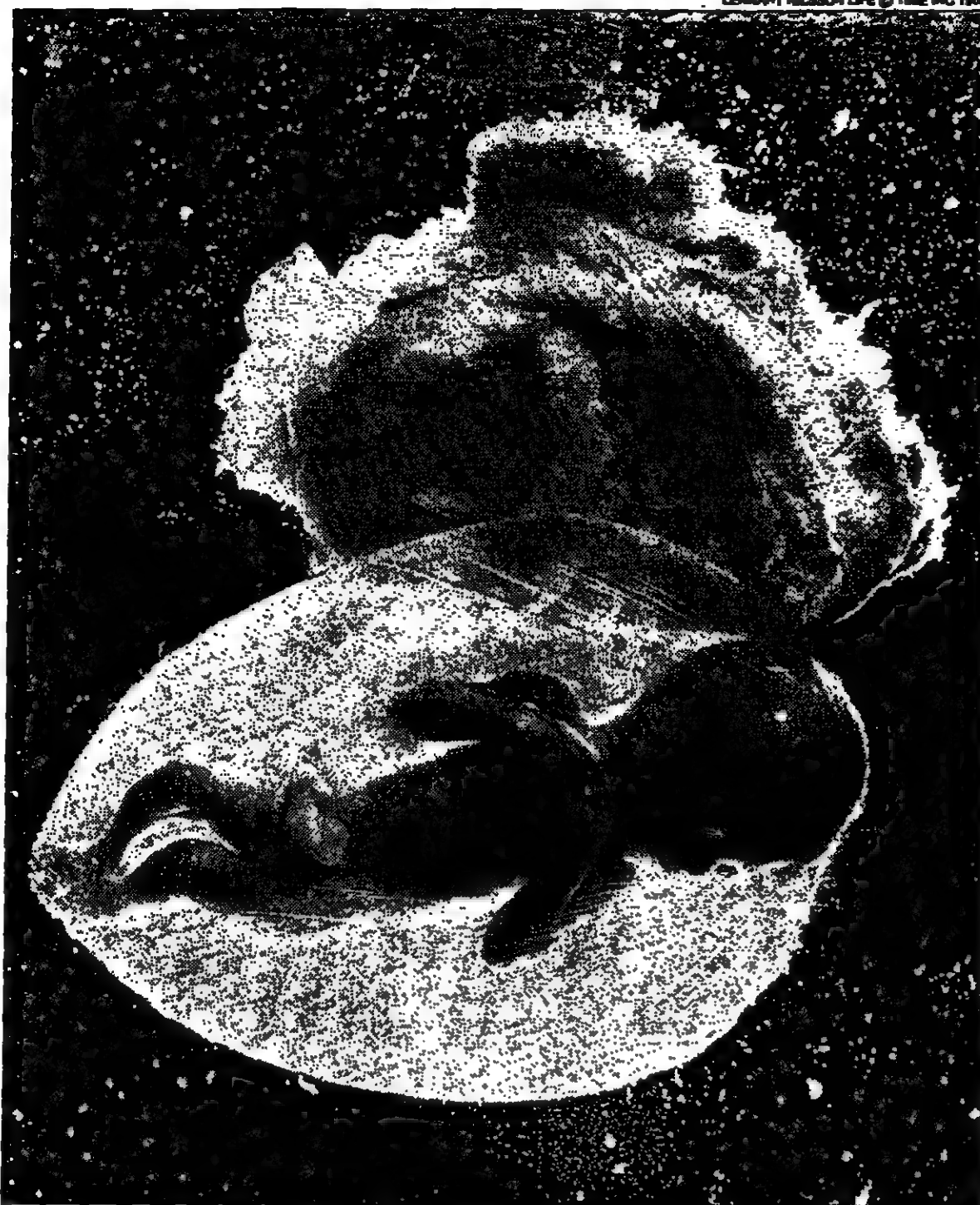
One of the studies, by a team from the Medical Research Council led by Professor David Barker, of Southampton University, investigated the cases of hundreds of people whose births between 1933 and 1943 were recorded in unusual detail at a hospital at Preston, Lancashire.

The records included each mother's pelvic measurements and previous pregnancies, and each baby's birth-weight, placental weight, head size and length. From their files, the researchers tracked down 449 men and women, now in middle age, who agreed to have medical tests. The results were, in the words of one expert, "totally unexpected and quite astounding".

They showed that those adults with high blood pressure, a leading risk factor in heart disease and stroke, had suffered impaired development before they were born. Something as yet inexplicable had diverted their blood away from the body and towards the brain, leaving other organs vulnerable to damage. A key finding was that some infants, otherwise apparently healthy, were smaller than the size and weight of their placenta indicated they should have been. These babies were more likely to have abnormally high blood pressure in adulthood.

The evidence implied that the babies failed to reach their potential size because they were not receiving necessary levels of nutrients through the placenta. The evidence strongly suggests that biological events occurring at critical moments in the womb can have a serious impact on health decades later.

Redistribution of blood flow to favour the brain is known to occur in a fetus exposed to harmful influences, such as lack of oxygen. According to Professor Barker, that process could



The foundations of health: heart disease, stroke and other serious illnesses might be traced back to the womb

have irreversible consequences, perhaps by damaging the arteries. "Until recently, the proposition has been that environmental factors in childhood such as poor housing, poverty and diet might have an effect on adult health," he says. "Now we can show that an adverse environment in the womb, and during the first few months of life, are what really matter."

"We need to know what events take place in the womb to cause impaired development of the fetus. If we can understand those mechanisms, we can start looking for ways to prevent them or reduce their impact."

Professor Barker believes that nutritional deficiencies are crucial. "If a baby misses essential nutrients during its growth in the womb, it simply cannot recover. The damage is done."

Professor Geoffrey Davies, the former director of the Nuffield Institute for Medical Research, and a leading expert in fetal studies, says: "For the past 40 years we have suspected that there are critical stages in the development of a baby when, if something abnormal occurs, there may be permanent effects. These stages may last only a few days or a few weeks, and the effects may not be detectable until long after the baby has been born and grown up. The work of Professor Barker and his colleagues is quite astounding, and represents rapid progress."

"The changes in blood pressure that they found in adults who had had fetal impairment are much greater than the consequences of smoking cigarettes, one of the main causes of heart disease. Clearly, if we were able to prevent those natural changes occurring, there would be immense benefits."

Professors Davies and Alberto Zaccanti, of Italy, are co-editors of a new book, *Fetal Autonomy And Adaptation*. "We have been used to regarding the intrauterine environment as a quiet, soft and silent place, protected and free of stress," Professor Zaccanti says. "The picture today is very different."

The other important evidence to emerge comes from a study of premature babies by Dr Alan Lucas and colleagues at the Medical Research Council's Dunn Nutrition Unit, in Cambridge. The study showed that if such babies were given nutrient-enriched formula feeds in the first few weeks of life, they fared better in the ensuing 18 months than those on the type of feeds that a full-term infant would receive.

The health and development of the two groups of children will be monitored over a long period. Like Professor Barker, Dr Lucas believes nutritional deficiencies in the womb may do lifelong damage and at least

some of those adverse effects can be countered by boosting an infant's nutrition.

"Every parent wants to know whether the way we feed our babies really matters in terms of affecting their risks of disease later in life. If it does, and we understand why, we can find ways to help those who are at higher risk, by constructive dietary manipulation," he says.

"The answer will come only through long-term studies such as ours. We need that kind of scientific evidence in order to provide parents and doctors with advice that is soundly based. A great deal of new knowledge will emerge in the next few years."

Neither Dr Lucas nor Professor Barker criticises the available nutritional advice for expectant mothers, and both are anxious to avoid causing them alarm. "The message is that the health of girls and young women today is crucial to the health of their children, and their grandchildren," Professor Barker says.

Dr Lucas says: "The factors that help babies grow and thrive will protect their health as adults. Rather than trying to treat conditions such as heart disease in middle age, a better approach may be to 'tackle their roots at the very beginning of life.'"

Fetal Autonomy And Adaptation, published by John Wiley & Sons, Chichester (£35).

MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr Thomas Stuttford

Paying for mistakes

Three cases in the High Court this week have drawn attention to the increased awareness of medical negligence and, consequently, of litigation. A grandmother, Margaret Green, was awarded £336,000 on behalf of a baby who was incorrectly diagnosed as having died before birth, only to be delivered alive, but paralysed, 17 hours later. In another case, Paul Moore, aged ten, who is profoundly handicapped and physically handicapped as the result of negligence during his birth, was awarded £620,000. And Marguerite Alexander, a 45-year-old mother who was refused a second amniocentesis, having been told, inaccurately, that after the first test had failed it was too late for another, settled for agreed damages of £387,000. Mrs Alexander's fears were realised and her baby, Tom, has Down's syndrome.

Mrs Alexander's case demonstrates that the 1856 Alderson definition of negligence can be extended to medical cases and that negligence can be as readily caused by the omission to take action in the best interests of the patient as it can be by actively pursuing treatment which would not be supported by prudent medical opinion. The importance of medical legal work is also illustrated by the recent appearance, for the first time in Britain, of a doctor's name among those of the partners on the letterhead of a solicitors' firm. Dr Elizabeth Driver has been appointed medical consultant (legal rules prevent her from becoming a partner) to the London firm of McKenna & Co, which deals



mainly with corporate clients. Dr Driver has joined a health care team which not only deals with litigation, usually but not always for the defendants, but also offers legal advice on the way in which government and EC regulations affect the pharmaceutical, food and chemical industries. Dr Driver, who has studied law, is well qualified for her role; after a brief excursion into clinical medicine she left to become a pathologist and toxicologist. She attributes her motivation for the change to her obsessive and meticulous nature, coupled with her upbringing (both her parents were scientists).

Dr Driver does not regret

the move from the crumbling buildings of the Medical Research Council unit where she worked previously to a comfortable office, nor exchanging the ritual of lunch-time sandwiches shared with fellow scientists for a glass of wine in the partners' dining room. She has found that a good lawyer uses a similar process of deductive reasoning to a trained scientist.

A spokesman for the Medical Defence Union, which provides insurance for doctors' legal expenses, welcomes Dr Driver's appointment, saying: "The increasing complexity of medicine means that solicitors and barristers need more informed guidance."

Withdrawal symptoms

When Dennis Enright, the author and poet who holds the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry, was professor of English at Singapore University, the local residents suffered one of the periodic outbreaks of the dread disease koro, in which patients fear that their penises are gradually disappearing into their abdomens. A contemporary account which he included in his recent anthology, *The Faber Book of Fears and Phobias*, prompted one reviewer to comment adversely on his gullibility. The reviewer was in fact wrong: koro has a long history. It was described by Hippocrates, who presumably saw cases at Kos, and even today doctors practising genito-urinary medicine in the comparatively sophisticated surroundings of a western clinic deal with patients with similar, if lesser, fears. Fortunately, the Chinese belief that if the retraction is complete death will occur is an extreme version of the phobia unlikely to be found in London. Frequently a spell of cold weather starts the scare; anxiety then exacerbates the problem.

An unusual variation of the koro phobia was reported this week by the News Agency of Nigeria. People shouting that their sex organs had been stolen for magical rites set off riots throughout Nigeria in which several people have been killed. The bizarre story, which started in Lagos, that even shaking hands with someone who possessed the evil power of stealing genitalia or breasts might be enough to result in amputation, soon spread, causing panic. Before westerners observers smile condescendingly, they should remember that the British patient is not free of

gullibility. A year or two ago there was a spate of faith healers who claimed to be able to operate within the abdomen without making an incision and therefore leaving no scar; the mysterious technique was performed hidden beneath a blanket. It was only when publicity was given to one healer who went too far and produced a blood-soaked rag as evidence of his skill, and the blood was shown to be animal rather than human, that this particular vogue died.

Disease by degrees

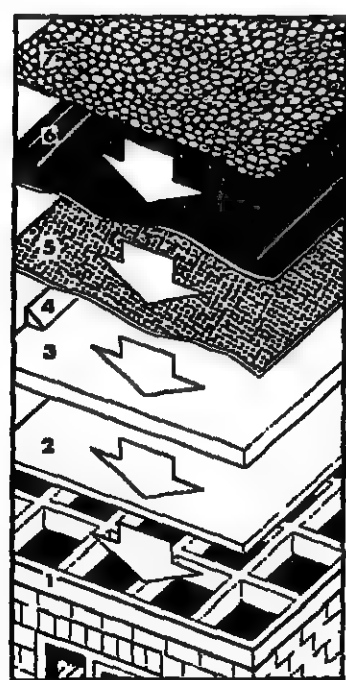
A glandular fever, infectious mononucleosis, is not a notifiable disease, there is no record of the pattern of epidemics, but many doctors have noticed a surge in the number of cases recently. The disease, caused by the Epstein Barr virus, one of the herpes group, is characterised by high fever, an appealingly sore throat, headache and, hence its name, enlargement of the lymph glands. The spleen is enlarged in 50 per cent of cases and the liver affected in 20 per cent, although only 5 per cent of patients develop actual jaundice. A cough from pneumonitis is not uncommon, and many patients develop puffy eyes.

Confirmation of the diagnosis follows blood tests, including specific tests for the Epstein Barr virus, the Paul Bunnell test and the mono spot blood test. The disease is spread by saliva; coughs and sneezes, shared food and kissing transmit it. In crowded households the disease is usually caught early in life, when the signs and symptoms may be so slight as to escape notice. In more affluent societies, infection is commonly delayed until adolescence. University life provides a superb breeding ground for the Epstein Barr virus and many first terms have been spoilt by the disease. provides a superb breeding ground for the Epstein Barr virus and many first terms have been spoilt by the disease.

Dr B.E. Juel-Jensen, for many years a physician in Oxford, has written that the belief that the disease will incapacitate the sufferer for six to nine months is not borne out by experience but is propagated by uninformed doctors. However, he says that such is the power of suggestion that many of his undergraduate patients have believed it and in consequence have suffered a benighted university career. In fact, symptoms usually last only from one to four weeks, sometimes they persist for a month or two and very occasionally there can be recurrent bouts of trouble if latent infection flares. Glandular fever can be a cause of post-viral depression, the latest dread of anxious parents.

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GET THEM THROUGH THE TIMES

Victoria Glendinning reviews a Border romance of blood and battles and two corbies making a mane

Rievers who hae published

This novel was largely written five years ago, at a time, writes Allan Massie, when he felt that his fiction was "too cerebral and reflective". *The Hanging Tree* is subtitled "A Romance of the Fifteenth Century", and it is a swashbuckling saga about people living violently in the Scottish Borders and on the edge of recorded history. There are as many hangings, betrayals, rapes, burnings alive, and assorted horrors done in "the howdumdeed of night" as could reasonably be assembled, along with a swooning lyricalism about sexual love, and riffs of doom-laden Scottish speech. As an English earl remarks, "What a strange way you talk; do they all talk that way in Scotland?" But Scottish readers have always contrived to decode the assorted dialects of English people, and the least Allan Massie's non-Scotts readers can do is to return the compliment.

THE HANGING TREE
By Allan Massie
Heinemann, £13.99

The four young Laidlaws of Chirysbaw, who owe allegiance to the powerful House of Douglas, fall under an auld wife's curse. Can Rob Laidlaw and his brothers escape their destiny? Is life determined by free will, or chance, or fate? An old soldier says that, "In the affairs of this world, chance governs all. There is nae such thing as Destiny." There are rival magics at work. Rob Laidlaw, the poet and blonde as a lily by the water's edge, who "may be the most handsome young man in the land", is a bank fringed with violence. A daisy chain she had made rested across her naked thighs. She is an initiate of the old religion, and sees "a dark fate" hanging over Rob.

But the chains of revenge and curses involve an abandonment of personal choice, thinks Rob, and his brother Maurice, the villain of the piece, whose ambition wins him the hand of the daughter of the Earl of Warwick, knows that, "If I believed in the effect of curses, I'm a dead man." Yet he superstitiously fingers the bones of Christian saints hanging round his neck. Behind the narrative lurks the still "cerebral and reflective" author, implying that men are bound by their own nature and culture.

The plotting is dense, and involves countless characters, including successive Earls of Douglas and kings of Scotland and England. The action is noisy, the settings well-realised — the hills and river valleys of the Borders, the dark farms and peel-towers, the dank and chilly castles which are like small towns, and the insecure lords of those castles to whom humble men must attach themselves if they are to survive. For those who enjoy "going back in time" as authentically as possible, *The Hanging Tree* will be a treat.

But there are two things that prevent it from being really good. One is that it is in two parts: Rob Laidlaw, the good brother, is the hero of the first half. In the more confused and diffuse action of second half, it is difficult to work up an equal concern for his son and nephews. The other problem is one faced by all historical novelists. As the authorial voice remarks, the story of the Laidlaws cannot be told "without telling also of the struggles for political power in the England and Scotland of their day." Thus men tell long stories about events they have witnessed; and the Earl of March explains to young Dandy Laidlaw why he has a title to the English throne: "Though it is true that my great-grandfather, Edmund, Duke of York, was but the youngest son of Edward III, while the so-called King Henry is descended from the third son John of Gaunt who was made Duke of Lancaster, you must not forget that I am also descended from..."

But I shall forget. It would have been better to have a couple of preliminary pages setting out the family trees of Scotland's and England's kings, and of the House of Douglas, plus a summary of the main events. They would have lapped up the drama and romance without indigestion, and the ideas about society and the individual that power the book would have shone through more clearly.



Allan Massie takes a tartan jaunt from fiction that was becoming too cerebral and reflective

Clutch the cat for comfort

Nobody could ever accuse Stephen King of not giving full value for money. This man would rather be strung up by his thumbs than short-change his readers. *Four Past Midnight* comprises four unrelated stories, any one of which might have been published as a single full-priced volume. "The Longoliers", in which a handful of airline passengers find themselves trapped in a new and dangerous dimension, is in the tradition of *The Twilight Zone* — a preposterous what-if fantasy unfurled with straight-faced panache. "Secret Window, Secret Garden" is about a writer bedevilled by paranoia. "The Library Policeman" and "The Sun Dog" describe supernatural goings-on in the sort of smalltown settings that King has perfected over the years. Their respective protagonists are menaced by (a) a demon librarian and (b) sinister snaps from a defective Polaroid. No classics of the genre here, but King can — and does — deliver a satisfactory frisson-factor with his eyes closed. Horror-hardened as I am, on several occasions I was forced to clutch the cat.

● The Stephen King Companion, edited by George Beahm (Macdonald, £13.95). Meanwhile, the King industry rolls on. Barely a month goes by without the release of another movie adapted from one of Big Steve's stories, or publication of yet another collection of analytical essays and interviews. This volume has less of a tacked-together-in-a-weekend feel than most of them, and has the bonus of photographs illustrating everything from the Maine man's specially-commissioned wrought-iron gates (crowned by bats and griffins) to his swimming-pool (disappointingly empty of killer gila-monsters).

● Houses Without Doors, by Peter Straub (Grafton, £13.99). After the lack-lustre *Mystery*, this collection of short and short-short stories goes some way towards restoring one's faith in Straub. Once again you get the feeling he is unhappy with his horror tag, and desperate to be taken seriously as a writer, but again it is evident that he is at his best — and least pretentious — when dipping his toes into the murky pool of the horror genre, which after all is only as shallow or as deep as anyone wants to make it. "Mrs. American God", in which an American academic gets sucked under the dusty spell of an English country house, is an effective exercise in the style of Robert Aickman. "Blue Rose" is a disconcerting description of how an imaginative

HORROR

Anne Billson

FOUR PAST MIDNIGHT

By Stephen King
Hodder & Stoughton, £14.99

ten-year-old can get away with murder. "The Buffalo Hunter", the weirdest and most original item on offer here, explores the fantasies of a young man who compensates for his social inadequacy by collecting baby bottles. Less successful are the fragments, which might have been intended as Borges, but come across as bits and pieces that the author cannot be bothered to write into a proper story.

● The Stalk, by Richard Laymon (Headline, £13.95). Laymon is well-known in splatter circles as an accomplished schlock writer of pulp nasties with a sado-masochistic streak. His latest is (if you will pardon the expression) several cuts above his standard output, and shows evidence that he has lavished some time and effort on his main characters: a writer who becomes obsessed with a wizened female corpse which may or may not be that of a beautiful vampire, and the writer's teenage daughter, whose crush on her teacher is on the verge of leading her into Big Trouble. Laymon juggles the two strands expertly, and though he can still bash you over the head with an occasional blast of kinky violence, he also gets you caring whether his characters live or die. I never dreamt I would ever use the word "sensitive" to describe a Richard Laymon novel, but there you go.

● The Ghost Now Standing On Platform One, edited by Richard Peyton (Sovereign Press, £14.95). Dreadful title, but ghosts and trains have always gone well together, and Peyton has compiled every significant example of haunted tracks from fact and fiction. Dickens's *The Signal-Man* is here, of course, and Aickman's *The Waiting Room*; also included are tales by Bloch and Bradbury, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Rudyard Kipling. Most of the stories are traditional fodder for a winter's night, comforting in their evocation of the age of steam engines, and those long-gone days when even phantom trains stuck to the timetable. Nowadays, alas, the term "ghost train" more readily conjures up images of a cancelled 8.48 to Liverpool Street.

SOUSA JAMBA's Patriots turns fact into fiction, in order that it will not be thought to be mere reportage or a bit of the author's psycho-history. It lacks jump as a novel, and therefore should be read for what it is, a document of people embroiled in the horrors of civil war. The action is set in Angola, a country Jamba was forced to leave in circumstances similar to those of his central character. The plot refers to Hosi's bookkeeping and idealism, but he returns from exile in Zambia to take up arms on behalf of this land of plenty of nothing.

Jamba describes a place in the throes of identity crisis. In fact, Angola is many places divided by fiercely contending political allegiances, but haunted by a common past and parallel nostalgias, and by what at times appears to be the shared culture of its various tribes. Portuguese and Indians and mulattoes squabble among themselves. Ten years after the outbreak of war Hosi falls headlong into the struggle between the Marxist MPLA, a party of north-orientals, and the American-backed Unita forces who control the south of the country. The novel begins with some flashbacks leading up to the murder of Hosi's parents, and ends with some reflections on the legacy of colonialism.

Nothingness, truly, seems to be the condition of the Angolan people. Jamba's characters are somehow abandoned by life, and exist without skills or meaning. *Patriots* shows how the conflict invades ordinary lives. As Pen-

African plenty of nothing

Hugh Barnes

PATRIOTS

By Sousa Jamba
Viking, £13.99

guin, a rabble-rouser, observes, "Africans are lost. The MPLA is out defending socialism and Unita says it is fighting for democracy or whatever. So people kill."

The early chapters dip into childhood. Hosi remembers the village he grew up in tribal customs, the folklore and witchcraft of the elders. He recalls his father, a feisty clerk impatient of visions of an egalitarian society. "I think you should be in a psychiatric ward," he tells the dissenters. Growing up becomes more difficult against a background of hate. Osvaldo, a half-brother and proselyte to communism, bitter and boastful, disowns the family and enlists on the MPLA side. Tiny children play soldiers, dividing

into groups and throwing stones at each other. Jamba portrays Hosi as a naïf assailed by rhetoric on all sides. The teacher (and turncoat) Xavier Ramos, for instance, hopes to demolish old tribal loyalties only to replace them with new political ones. Hosi supports Unita because his tribe is Ovimbundu, but he pretends that his motives are ideological.

Ramos's overwhelming cantish vitality is probably not a political thing in itself, but it comes from the lush underside, the rich bottom soil of the political terrain. His every sentence is a speech to his public, his circle is a sort of political party to be used, fulsomely praised, and grotesquely subjected to uplifting sermons. He is literally swollen with idealistic feelings and self-love, with democratic statements and profound self-seeking. Hosi trans as a Unita guerrilla, and is later captured by the MPLA. It occurs to him that the struggle is an illusion; only the killing is real. The rivals have much in common. "There is no difference between the MPLA soldier and the Unita soldier," he says. "We are all patriots. We all love Angola and are prepared to die for it in our way."

Inevitably the question arises of what loving a country means. How do patriots choose sides? The discussion that follows is laboured, in spite of, or perhaps because of, Jamba's impulse towards apologetics. It ends a novel through which blood and banality run like a low fever. The best bits are at the beginning.

Deep American black and blues

Toni Morrison paints a savage portrait of a poor black family in Forties Ohio, from the point of view of a young girl. Pecola, the book's heroine, is a schoolmate of the narrator. Always wishing for blue eyes like the little white girls, her life has been nothing but blank fear and despair, hiding from family rows and finally getting raped by her father. Her wasted baby symbolises the hatred which her society has turned on itself. *The Bluest Eye* is about racism, sexism and the cruelty of enforced resilience. Morrison forgives nobody — even domestic pets are used as pawns.

● Also first published a decade ago was *The Fat Man in History*, Peter Carey's only book of short stories (Faber, £3.99). At first obscure, he quickly reveals a giant over-world, expressly designed to display the perverse values of our own. "The door lay beneath us, a monument to my duplicity and fear." Similar monuments appear throughout, such as the ill-designed drug that makes the hands turn blue as a side-effect. Carey's brilliance lies in the quiet power he exerts over his text.

PAPERBACKS

Tania Glyde

THE BLUEST EYE

By Toni Morrison
Picador, £4.99

● Colin Thubron writes with spare beauty about love. In *Falling* (Penguin, £4.99), Mark falls for Clara, a circus girl. She is a brilliant trapeze artist from a dead-end family circus. He works for a no-hope local paper, from which he has previously found solace in the form of Katherine, a beautiful, quietly insecure artist. One night, in attempting her most daring act ever, Clara falls and is totally paralysed. She begs for Mark to help her die, for which he goes to prison. The portrait of Katherine is far crueler than the death of Clara. Thubron paints the time-old picture of those doomed to rejection for needing too much.

● In *Sexing the Cherry* (Image, £3.99), a baby is fished out of the Thames by the wishfully conceived Dog Woman, a grotesque giantess who embodies all the timeless nobility of the utterly self-

sufficient female. She names the baby Jordan, and takes him in as her son. Her 17th-century world is populated by whores, lecherous priests and charlatans, but its dimensions are infinite — nothing in Jeanette Winterson's imagination is hampered by size or scale. Near the end Winterson can bear it no longer and launches, in a 20th-century dream-voice, into a gratuitous tirade against our times. However laudable, it slightly spoils the atmosphere. The mixture of sources, fairy-tales and scientific freedom is refreshing, but the whole leans dangerously towards the patchy.

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By Ariel Dorfman
Translated by George
Shivers

Readers International, £11.95

This is the month before Christmas, and publishers are giving us stocking-fillers, picture albums, and novelty books that pop up, squeak, float in the bath and sing "Jingle Bells". There is not much festive spirit, however, in their fiction offering, which this week wraps up self-destruction, murder, corruption, desolation, bloodshed and revolution with ribbons of anguish and a flourish of paranoia. True, there is plenty of turkey in Rush, Kim Wozencraft's astonishing first novel about life as a police officer in Texas, but it is "cold turkey", as in withdrawal from drugs, and her story is as numbing and stomach-turning as they get — even more so for being autobiographical.

Kristen, a star athlete straight out of Catholic high school, gives up waitressing for a job in the Texas police force. Within days of getting her badge and gun, she is teamed up with undercover narcotics agent, Jim Raynor, who becomes her mentor, her lover, and eventually her husband. Kristen's job is to install herself under an alias in an apartment, win the trust of dealers who would sell her drugs. The defendants are arrested; Kristen and Jim testify at their trial.

All too often, to prove they are not cops, they share a bit of contraband with the dealer. Seduced by the danger and duplicity — the honour of working for the community while enjoying fringe benefits — Kristen develops a habit and Jim overdoses. The police chief doesn't want to know: he needs them to make a case against a local pornographer. They cannot do it the official way, so they manufacture a case. Two years later the FBI catches up with them and they are sent to prison. Rush must be the most disconcerting book I have ever read. Wozencraft not only describes the thrills and spills of heroin, cocaine, speed, dope, uppers, downers, crystal meth, acid, you name it — and the self-helplessness — in harrowing, physical terms, but she relays the agonising guilt of being both felon and law enforcer. What her story lacks in finesse of style, it more than makes up for in honesty and impact. It is hardly surprising that the film rights were fought over in Hollywood, for this is a story which has love, violence, police corruption, and disappointed ideals, a courtroom drama that shows a woman trying to stand tall in a bad man's world and a worse criminal underworld.

We are still in a world of subversives in Michael Wilding's story collection, *Great Climate*. Black-shadowed eyes are common to all his characters — drug dealers, bon vivants, writers, beach bums, students, and a man who descends 157 steps down a cliff face wearing his vampire's assistant make-up — and paranoia is their lifestyle. The first story, "Beach Report", is about a society longing for total annihilation. The sea and sky are blue, there are yachts on the horizon and buggies in the dunes, the sand is warm and barbecues are frizzling. But still everyone wants to die — those that do not are "survival freaks". "Hector and Freddie", a story about two Oxford undergraduates, takes normal

student shyness, and expands it to full scale insecurity and perversion of the world around them. Friendship between them is like a high security protection zone.

Imagination is most appealing when it is full of twists. At the end of "The Girl Behind the Bar" is reading Jack Kerouac, for instance, a man lies in the bed of the girl he has just seduced reading one of her stories, which scripts his seduction exactly as it happened. Cleverest of all is "The Man of Slow Feeling", in which an accident leaves its victim with delayed sensation. He feels, tastes, smells, and experiences things three hours after the stimulus.

Ariel Dorfman's subject is the anguish of an age. *Hard Rain* was written in 1972, during the Chilean revolution known as the peaceful road to socialism. As we see in the East European writing of, say, Ivan Klemmer, social upheaval questions everything else: politics, economics, culture, human relations, thought, the narrative structure itself. In a preface to this first English translation, Dorfman explains that his novel must thus be understood as part of the process of collective and personal self-examination, as part of his country's past and a vision of its future. His text teems with people telling their own story, writing their own history, in books and films and situations that test the human character and tackle its soul: an astronaut placed in suspended animation for 5,000 years of endless thinking, a group of adults playing children's games, the biography of a potato from seed to plate with all the lives it touches on the way (farmers, truckers, shopkeepers, housewives, etc.). This is a difficult novel of ideas, even if you are familiar with Chile's Pinochet years.



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THEATRE

Even the British need releasing

Kenneth Rea watches the confrontational Brazilian director Augusto Boal at work

In a Docklands arts centre, a group of actors are performing an improvised play about racism. Two of them tell a crude, racist joke in front of a black actor who pretends to ignore it. Suddenly there is a shout from the audience: "Stop!" A black woman strides on to the stage and takes over the role, haranguing the other actors to the cheers and applause of the spectators. "Stop!" shouts another and she, too, plays the same scene her way. Before long the audience of normally rational adults is behaving as if it was watching a boxing match.

The diverse nature of international theatre makes it highly susceptible to new fads, new theories, new gurus. One is always on the lookout. Brecht, Grotowski and Brook have all had their turn. Now the latest idea has arrived in Britain.

This is forum theatre and the maestro manipulating the scene is Augusto Boal, the Brazilian director. Going beyond Brecht, who asked merely that the audience should keep its sense of objective judgment, Boal wants to restore democracy to the theatre by knocking down the dividing wall between the actor and the spectator. He demands active participation from what he calls the "spect-actor".

Forum theatre, which is one weapon in Boal's arsenal of the theatre of the oppressed, is essentially political. It was born in the early Seventies as a dissenting voice in the wilderness of Latin American military regimes. In those days it was direct and dangerous. Its targets were immediately obvious: the government, the army, the police. Theatre, for Boal, was a rehearsal for the revolution, a

concept that landed him in jail. Today he prefers to raise questions and let the audience find the answers. Boal's idea changed when he was performing a play for Brazilian peasants which ended with the cast raising their rifles and shouting to the audience, "Shed your blood to free our land!" After the play one of the peasants came up and invited the actors to bring their rifles and fight the government.

"We were shocked by that," recalls Boal. "I had to say that our rifles were not real, they were props. 'Don't worry,' said the peasant. 'Your rifles may be false but you are true. We have rifles for all of us.' I had to explain then that we were truly artists and not peasants. 'Ah,' said the peasant. 'When you say let's shed our blood and free our land, you mean our blood!' That was awful. Now we never tell people to do what they are not prepared to do. They have to decide when and how to do it."

Ten years of exile led Boal to Argentina, Portugal and France where he set up in Paris his Centre for the Theatre of the Oppressed and wrote a book about his theories. This brought him international fame, and a string of invitations to conduct workshops throughout Western Europe.

One might have expected that this remnant of Sixties-style propaganda theatre would have been outdated and politically irrelevant here. Quite the reverse. The ever-resourceful Boal made the startling discovery that oppression is alive and well in Europe: the only difference is that the policeman is inside the head.

"When I asked the audience to tell me about their own oppressions," says Boal, "they would say,



Forum theatre master Augusto Boal demonstrates his technique at a workshop in London

"My oppression is a feeling of emptiness." I said, "That's not oppression. Oppression has to do with the police." I sincerely could not understand that.

Then I realised that while the social problems in Europe are more or less solved, the rate of suicide is much higher than in Brazil. In Latin America they die of starvation or by being shot. If a person, by feeling emptiness, prefers to kill himself, then I have to take that seriously because it is a violent oppression as terrible as torture."

At this point, Boal's work borders on psychodrama as the focus shifts between theatre for the public, directed towards social action, and theatre for the individual actor, a behind-the-scenes therapy. With "the cop in the head", as he calls it, the market has widened. Last year, he was

invited to Amsterdam with his troupe to open an international congress of psychotherapists celebrating the centenary of the birth of Jacob Moreno, the founder of psychodrama.

Meanwhile, in Britain, Boal's followers are multiplying. He has been here three times this year and is sure to be back. Next spring London Bubble, the company that brought him over for the Docklands workshop, is planning a forum theatre tour of its own. If the demonstration performance I attended last week is anything to go by, there should be no lack of oppressive issues: racism, class, sexism, or just the old-fashioned oppression of an intimate relationship that is not going too well. The political revolution has become a psychological one geared to helping the individual cope with life. But what most struck me,

watching Boal and his disciples in action, was the facility with which non-actors stood up and stepped into the play. Boal's trick was first to focus their minds on what they wanted to say so that actors and "spect-actors" were united in solving a problem. From there on, passion overcame inhibition and they turned in remarkably credible performances.

Boal says: "What I had learnt about English people is that they are phlegmatic in spirit and they take their tea and are so cultivated. But then I saw an audience that was so activated. One woman took off her hat and threw it on the floor in rage at what was being said. This made me happy. I don't like cathartic theatre. I prefer theatre where you get excited and sometimes frustrated. That's the beginning of transformation."

TELEVISION PREVIEW

Gimlet gaze shows hopes turning sour

In Warsaw, Roger Boyes reveals the background to the Polish documentaries being shown in Britain this weekend

Television helped to spark and consolidate the democratic revolutions of Eastern Europe. Angry young East Germans, fuelled by information and consumer dreams broadcast from West Germany, broke through the Wall. Television reports of neighbouring unrest spread revolutionary ferment throughout the Soviet bloc, even to relatively placid corners such as Bulgaria. And the Romanian revolution was controlled in the first few days from the television studios; the new leaders shuffled on and off camera issuing instructions and demonstrating to the frightened people that the rule of the Ceausescus was shattered.

Now, as Polish television is consistently showing, there are different, more complex tasks. When Solidarity gained political control of the studios, its first instinct was to run a pro-government network to consolidate its power. Communist orthodoxy was replaced by Solidarity orthodoxy. But as Solidarity has splintered (this weekend's presidential contest between Lech Walesa and Tadeusz Mazowiecki driving home the point) so it has become

Soviet Union, which is mocked or pitted; religious masses are broadcast; censored press run Saturday morning play-school; Solidarity ministers (former dissidents) are given their say, and so, sometimes, are their critics within Solidarity. Yet television was part of the political game by the communists and, under the new order, television continues to be regarded as an instrument of control. The best scheduling for important government announcements is after the weather or *Benny Hill*—a lesson learned from communist programmers.

The television freedoms won by the Solidarity revolution are chiefly in the realm of investigative film-making. Poland is enjoying a renaissance of the television documentary; at their best, they are more carefully researched and better observed than in the West. There are two main variants: the historical documentary that reveals shelved or previously banned archive material and combines it with well-targeted interviews; and the social documentary that explores moral or personal dilemmas that were previously out of bounds. Even

feature film directors, such as Krzysztof Kieslowski, make use of the new documentary freedoms.

The finest example of historical documentary is *The Trial*, by Krzysztof Lang and Michał Komar. This reconstructs a Stalin-era trial of Polish officers accused of spying. Komar, whose own father (formerly head of the military counter-intelligence service) was accused of spying simultaneously for the British, Americans, French and Japanese, has managed to bring out the dry humour of the surviving officers: "The basic political education for Poles is quite simple," says one. "Two years' jail on false charges for men, one year for women. No education is complete without it." Every Polish documentary has to come up with at least two scoops if it is to transcend the shock threshold of the unshockable Polish viewer. Komar's scoop was to track down one of the nastiest interrogators, now a pensioner in Kiev, and stage a Claude Lanzmann-style confrontation.

Starecki has his scoops too, small, individual ones: the sad confession of a woman prosecutor who realises that she acted badly on behalf of a bad system; business trainees playing "the mafia game" to learn aggressive marketing; a glamorous woman who sells gas-guns and who talks glibly about buying ammunition from Czechoslovakia. His series is divided into the Old, Fears, Hope and the New. It says much for Starecki that the weakest episode is probably Hope, and that the New is peopled with shifty types rather than visionaries. There is not much vision, and not much joy: an altogether fair portrayal of the revolution, one year on.

"Until I saw the film, I didn't realise quite how unhappy we are," one Polish viewer told me. Starecki would no doubt regard that as a compliment. *Pears on a Willow Tree* will be shown on BBC 2 at 9.30pm tomorrow, and 10.30pm on Saturday.

TELEVISION REVIEW

Causes of weeping and gnashing of teeth

SOMEBODY should run an Open University course on whether it would be possible to educate a person entirely from television captions, regardless of the soundtrack broadcast at the time. Were you, for instance, aware that Hank Wangford gets billed as "singer and gynaecologist", or that there is in America a research organisation known as the Dry Eye and Tear Centre? It is, in fact, the employer of Dr William Frey, who turned up on Channel 4 last night as the principal expert in a Without Walls of quite remarkable inanity and silliness. Entitled "Tracks of My Tears", it was devoted to blubbering.

This is not, to reassure my fellow foodies, the process of putting on weight, but rather the one that allows water to pour out of your eyes. In a survey which surprisingly did not call on awards ceremonies of any kind, it was established that crying is "a natural expiatory response to

emotional stress"; next week, perhaps, they will move on to the significance of coughing and spluttering when faced with programmes such as this.

We did, however, learn that by crying and wearing a hearing-aid and getting very thin, Johnnie Ray was an early explorer of male vulnerability on screen, and that Sid James used to cry a lot when Barbara Windsor refused to make love to him, but would cry even more after she had done so. We also learnt that the average man cries only once a month, presumably whether or not he is a Tory Party adviser, but that women cry once a week, though probably not in Downing Street. Ken Dodd cried for the taxi man, and Tony Blackburn thinks that crying makes him into an "ordinary human being". We live and learn.

Jeremy Isaacs turned up on Tuesday for an interview with Edmund White on *The Late Show* (BBC 2), which proved one of the

best in the current series of "Face to Face".

White is the American writer, based in Paris, who conceived his first gay novel at 14, having already told his mother that he was in love with the son of the man she was currently dating. Mother did not seem over-impressed with the idea of a double wedding, and father set him to work clearing up hundreds of millions of pine needles in the hope that hard labour might sort out his son's sexuality. White is now 50, diagnosed HIV positive, and a superb chronicler of his gay generation: oppressed in the Fifties, liberated in the Sixties, celebrated in the Seventies, only to be all but wiped out in the Eighties.

Of the eight men in his writers' groups, five are now dead. Yet White himself remains quite wonderfully resilient: you make retirement plans, he noted, but realistically you do not expect to

be alive in five years' time. An observer of the Stonewall rioting of 1969, which brought him out of a middle-class passivity into activism against police brutality, White now spends much of his time around death beds, but notices no regrets for the gay life, no sense among his own dying community of nemesis.

Isaacs' questions about gay promiscuity were elegantly seen off by White's sheer historical command of his own generation, something which came with some chilling footnotes. It is not, for instance, likely to be in official New York guide books that at the time of the 1964 World's Fair the mayor had all the city's gay bars forcibly closed down for fear of deterring the tourists. As an introduction to International Aids Day next week, this White interview could not have been better.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

PERFORMANCE ART

Rebel from decade of greed

Laurie Anderson, whose latest show opens this weekend, talks to Steve Turner

Laurie Anderson's first big work since *United States*, the two-part, eight-hour show she took on the road in 1983, is *Empty Places*. Shorter (90 minutes long) and more political, it includes songs along with familiar visual images, monologues and music, and was premiered last June at the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, Virginia. She had planned to bring it to Europe in June but, "the soccer matches got in the way. A lot of the shows were to take place in Italy."

Anderson is a compelling performer, seducing audiences into her arguments through a deceptively gentle speaking voice and then applying armlocks of logic. She mixes her media, but never as a gratuitous exercise. She simply picks the best medium for the mood. For *Empty Places* she is using six screens and a computerised system which can project up to 30 still and moving images simultaneously. She plays keyboards and synthesised violin, and alters the sound of her voice through use of a harmoniser.

"It's a very political show," she says, "although I have taken out some of the things that I thought would be interesting to Americans but not too fascinating to Europeans. A lot of the things that have been going on here, like the continued swing to the Right, have parallels elsewhere, and so some of it will translate anyway. "I suppose it's really about living through the Reagan years. Like a lot of people, I kind of slept through that era, politically. The political content of my work was not very evident. But this is about a decade of greed and what it does to people and values."

Anderson, now 43, arrived in



Anderson: compels her audiences with armlocks of logic

New York in the mid-1960s, and involved herself in performance art in the 1970s. She would probably have remained unknown if it had not been for "O Superman", her 1980 hit single. Since then, she has recorded five albums.

She is still happy to be described as a performance artist, particularly now that American performance artists have become targets of anti-obscenity campaigners, but she recognises that she is too accessible to be considered part of the avant-garde which initially spawned her. "I tried calling myself a storyteller for a while," she explains, "but I think you have to have a banjo and a front porch to do that. Performance artist is okay. It's a catch-all kind of description."

Anderson comes to London from Berlin, where she has spent a lot of time during the past two years. "When the pictures started

coming last November everyone wanted to interpret the expression on the faces of the East Germans as a reaction to fresh air," she said. "It was the reaction of people who were desperate — to stop. This is what we were giving them. "That's why I don't think a show about the culture of greed is too late in the 1990s. It may even be too early."

Anderson can be seen at the Dominion Theatre, Tottenham Court Road, London W1, on Sunday and Monday.

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CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

Creatures of salons and sewers

David Robinson on
Metropolitan, *Henry and June*, *Blue Steel*,
Teenage Mutant
Ninja Turtles,
Stockade and *The Exorcist III*

Committed to flamboyance and inflation, the cinema has produced few miniatures as Jane Austen. What Stillman's *Metropolitan* (15, Lumiere, Screen-on-the-Hill, Cannon Chelsea) is the beautiful exception, proclaiming the supremacy of wit and style over ostentation.

The film was made for very little money, but its austerity is that of patrician elegance. Stillman (interviewed below) has not been cowed into shaky, grainy 16mm camerawork: the background to his comedy of manners is the glamour of Christmas-time Manhattan, and the pale decor of smart New York apartments.

Metropolitan is about the children of the Manhattan upper-class, lingering debutante society—a group as hermaphrodite as Jane Austen's country life. Self-absorbed, they spend their time between black-tie balls and grave salon talk about life, love, culture and who is dating whom. They style themselves UHBs—for Urban Haute Bourgeoisie.

The group is catalysed by the incursion of an outsider. Having adopted a mysterious boy called Tom (Edward Clements), the group is disconcerted to find that he does not share its standards either of money or manners. Tom's expectations from the group are equally disappointed. Fed by Stillman's own witty, rich yet economical dialogue, a cast of attractive young newcomers plays out this ironic, arch, gently mocking and refreshingly original comedy with confident style.

Henry and June (18, Empire 2) is adapted by the director Philip Kaufman and his wife Rose from the unexpurgated version of Asa's Nin's 1931-32 journal, which describes her complicated sexual relationships during that year, most notably with Henry Miller. The title refers to Miller and his colourful wife, June Mansfield.

"Oh, I am slippery," Nin's journal muses at one moment. Given the nature of her memoirs it is hard to know if she is referring to a moral or physical attribute.



Subterranean scenes from *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*: "an amiable, silly, comic-strip affair" starring the puppets from Jim Henson's Creature Shop

For anyone who does not yield to her pushing prose, she is unappealing—incurably narcissistic, blandly justifying her naïve but energetic sexual experiments and wholesale deception of those who trust her. "Perhaps in the end I am the biggest liar of them all."

Nin's fantasising of her own sexuality and the glamour of her partners (the reality of Henry and June seems to have been less romantic) is further refracted through Kaufman's excited vision, as an American in Paris, fired with nostalgia for this interwar Bohemia. The streets of Kaufman's Paris are picturesquely filled with the music of accords, with clowns and magicians, women combing their hair and brassily busily snapping his classic images. If Nin and her friends go to a movie, it is sure to be a classic—though the silent *Un Chien Andalou* and *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc* might seem rather anachronistic for 1932.

Nin's explorations take her into lurid lesbian bars and picturesque brothels straight from the world of saucy French postcards. The film's sex scenes, though frequent, are brief and remarkably unobscene: the future surrounding the film's classification in America looks

like commercial good fortune. In fact this well-polished biopic manages to be both wide-eyed and precocious at the same time. Wide-eyed is also the invariable state of cute Maria de Medeiros, as Nin, though after 137 minutes, the look which first passes for innocence and passionate curiosity seems merely vacant. A cheerfully extrovert Henry is played by Fred Ward with a shaven head, the sultry, bisexual June by Uma Thurman.

Gulls play rough. Two of the bloodiest cop films of the season—Kathryn Bigelow's *Blue Steel* and Sonda Locke's *Impulse*—are directed by women, with policewomen protagonists. In *Blue Steel* (18, Odéon Marble Arch, Merzario's Kensington, Cannon's Oxford Street, Prince Charles), Jamie Lee Curtis sheds the problems of being a woman in a supposedly male preserve. Her fellow cops resent her; her father regards her as a class traitor; potential men-friends are frightened off. A pathological killer (Ron Silver) creates fistful fantasies around her; and this motivates the thriller plot.

The story—which escalates through growing improbabilities to a finale with interminable twists

and a miraculously indestructible villain—is less interesting than the execution, and Jamie Lee Curtis's fascinating portrait of the fierce, driven, vulnerable, sexually enigmatic young woman Kathryn Bigelow's third film confirms her as a stylish, dynamic director. Trained in graphic art, she has a strong visual sense, evident in sensuous close-ups of guns and the purposeful use of colour.

Appropriately, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* (PG, Odéon West End) is more a marketing phenomenon than a film. The Turtles first appeared seven years ago in a comic strip that brought instant fame and fortune to the creators, Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird. Energetic marketing campaigns followed, and the Turtle industry peaked dramatically with the American release of the film. Now the British toy industry produces the Turtles will save the slumping Christmas market.

The film itself is an amiable, silly, comic-strip affair, distinguished by the remarkable production of Jim Henson's Creature Shop. The goofy, ebullient Turtles, dancing, playing Trivial Pursuits, wolfing pizza and talking teen-

slang are quite as believable as any of the human performers.

Appropriately to a film produced by the Hong Kong-based Golden Harvest company, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* is a comic variant on the martial arts movie, with the evil rival gang recruited, Fagin-style, from runaway boys of the New York streets. This box-office blockbuster was made by the young English director Steve Barron.

A recurrent theme in Hollywood military films is frustrated sexual or emotional desire that finds an outlet in sadistic bullying. In *Stockade* (12, Cannon's Pantheon Street, Oxford Street), based on a novel by Gordon Weaver and directed by Gordon Sheen, Sheen plays a tyrannical sergeant in an army detention camp. His son, Charlie Sheen, plays his most recalcitrant detainee.

The elder man wants to make the young soldier a surrogate for his own estranged son. Deeply racist, he has his frustration exacerbated when the soldier, the only white prisoner in the stockade, chooses solidarity with his black comrades rather than complicity. Though the tormented relationship follows many of the familiar clichés of this distinctive

sub-genre, the real-life father and son give it a persuasive intensity.

The *Exorcist III* (18, Cannon's Oxford Street, Haymarket), is scripted and directed by the author of the original 1973 film, William Peter Blatty. Police (a larger-than-life George C. Scott) and priests again do battle with satanic possession, centred this time on a psychiatric hospital. Blatty creditably tries to achieve his thrills through atmosphere and surprise, without special effects or physical horror (the victims' abused corpses are described but never shown). There are some effective scenes and well-sketched characters, but the film suffers from an odd discontinuity.

The Argentinian director Eliseo Subiela is an inventive talent handicapped by a prolixity that is as apparent in *Last Tango in Paris* (12, ICA Cinema) as in an earlier film, recently shown in London, *Man Facing South East*. The hero of this parable on the difficulties of modern being is an amateur author who attaches himself to a bizarre outlaw family, "shipwrecked" in the tenuous vagues of Buenos Aires. Soon he finds his life taken over by theirs. Well played, but the film cries out for rigorous editing.

BRIEFING

Emmy thing you can do

BRITISH television dominated the International Emmy Awards in New York earlier this week. BBC 1 took the drama category with *First and Last*. Michael Frayn's story of a man seeking to fulfil his ambition of walking from Land's End to John O'Groats. BBC 2 won for arts documentary with *From Moscow to Pishinshi*, a study of the Russian writer Vyenedikt Yerofeyev. Three more Emmys went to Channel 4. Peter Brook's six-hour Indian epic *The Mahabharata*, won for best performing arts programme. *Norbert Smith - A Life* which starred Harry Enfield as an actor looking back over his career, took the popular arts category, and *Living with Dinosaurs* won for children's programming.

Concern in concert

CLASSICAL music's answer to Band Aid—called *Music for the World*—will be launched on December 5 at the Festival Hall. The event has been set up to raise public awareness of environmental problems such as pollution and global warming and, more important to raise funds to assist research projects aimed at tackling those problems. Money will be donated through a series of concerts and special recordings.

Home, felt home

ONE of the weirdest of the City of Culture's multifarious progeny will be unveiled at the Glasgow Art Gallery tomorrow. "The Felt Cottage: Burns Beuys and Beyond" is the outcome of a collaboration by two of Scotland's most amiable art world eccentrics, the conceptual artist George Wyllie and Richard Demarco. The Edinburgh galleryman who introduced the German artist, Joseph Beuys, to these shores in the early Sixties, The Ploughman's Poet's humble cottage has been realised in the German artist's favoured material, felt. Inside is to be found a ceramic sculpture by Marilyn Smith.

Last chance...

A HEALTHY assortment of American jazz pianists has been shipping in and out of the Busa C'lef (081-729 2476/2480) in London in recent months. The latest visitor, George Cables, winds up his residency tonight. One of those players who offers unstinting support to better-known soloists, Cables has worked with Dexter Gordon, Freddie Hubbard and Art Pepper. His two tonight features the club's bass-playing proprietor, Peter Ind, and the drummer Mark Taylor.

CINEMA INTERVIEW

New York director produces chic without cliché

Whit Stillman, whose film *Metropolitan* is reviewed above, is a far cry from the Hollywood hype stereotype, says John Marriott

That a young, successful New York director pays tribute to the gently rolling whimsy of Scottish film-maker Bill Forsyth may be puzzling to some. The standard-issue New York director, who packs his films with car-crashing, cop-killing and coke-smuggling, is more likely to regard Forsyth as the man in the moon, assuming he has heard of him in the first place.

Yet Whit Stillman stands at some considerable distance from New York cliché. As writer, producer and director of *Metropolitan*, whose word-of-mouth impact at Cannes ensured that crowds were shut out from its many screenings, he has delivered a warmly critical essay on New York's debutant set. With a fresh, eager eye which lifts the urban movie beyond the grasp of usual tired imagery, he homes in on the Upper East Side and, through the ensemble playing of complete

unknowns, outlines the strengths, foibles and anxieties of a disappearing class. In so doing, he intentionally recalls the characters and moral tone of Jane Austen. What prompted Stillman to cover a milieu which is generally shunned by the big screens?

"I like the visual attractiveness of this crowd, with their nice suits and pretty dresses, but I also wanted to explore this world in a fair way. There is a stock caricature of the Park Avenue type, the familiar, stuff-shirt idiot, and, if people indeed have idiosyncrasy, it's more interesting and realistic to show this from the inside."

Stillman, indeed, does not cheaply satirise members of this group as empty-headed money-grabbers, but separates them into

complex creatures who are viewed through the ever-changing eyes of Tom Townsend, an ill-at-ease outsider who moves from rigid socialism to self-awareness.

"Tom represents my own political views of some years back. In my family, class was a real problem. There was a lot of ambivalence and schizophrenia towards a class to which we partially belonged, yet we also felt a great deal of hostility to it. My great-grandfather was chairman of Clubbank, but my grandfather, who reacted against his wealthy background, gave away his cash to medical research and only felt comfortable with working people."

Strung out between the old-money privilege of his roots and

the active political life of his father (a Democrat who supported John Kennedy), Stillman actually entered the world of the debutants as a dance escort.

"The girls usually need two escorts to attend a dance. The first is the fellow with whom they will spend most time and the second was me, a kind of spare-tyre escort who will drift in and out of the act as necessary. They thought I was a bit of a Marlon, but at least I was the Marlon they wanted as an escort," he confesses.

His thoughtful torrents of speech do at least give evidence of one American whose class anxieties will be understood by the British.

How had he attracted finance for an unusual film which has

broken house records at the New York cinema best known as the showcase for Woody Allen's annual offerings?

"I sold my apartment in 1984 and found some money from relatives and friends. Back then I ran a family business by day, an agency representing cartoonists and illustrators, and wrote the script by night. The cast was young and keen and had not been corrupted by the cynicism of the film business, so that made life easier. I also had useful experience as a distributor of Spanish films."

Either enthusing about the choice New York locales for his film, or reliving the traumas of film-making with a self-doubt which dents the usual PR sheen of Hollywood, Stillman is a refreshing blend of emotional maturity and schoolboy innocence. When I tell him that Forsyth is staying at the same hotel, he almost cannot wait to finish the interview.



Carolyn Farina as Audrey Bouquet in *Metropolitan*

DANCE

Storming the western pagodas

Nina Ananiashvili and Alexei Fadeychev had to fit in our meeting between rehearsals of *The Prince of the Pagodas* at the weekend. They have little enough time, before their Royal Ballet debuts tomorrow, to get to grips with music and choreography that are markedly different from their previous experience as stars of the Bolshoi Ballet. But that is the whole point for them: a new experience. Besides, Covent Garden holds good memories.

Ananiashvili first stepped into the international spotlight here in 1986, aged 23, with a beautifully polished, serene performance as Raymonda. Her partner, then as now, was Fadeychev, who is also proud of a debut that season: his first performance as Ivan the Terrible, on the same stage where his father Nicolai had done his

John Percival meets the latest Soviet stars at Covent Garden

first *Giselle*, partnering Ulanova exactly 30 years earlier. Alexei Fadeychev finds, it a benefit to have a father who is still in the theatre as a coach. "When I was young and foolish, I argued with him a lot," he says. "I felt I knew better. Now, I hope I am more mature. I listen to him."

Ananiashvili agrees. In contrast to Fadeychev (whose mother was also a dancer) she comes from a family with no theatrical traditions, although her parents used to watch and enjoy ballet in Tbilisi, capital of Georgia, where the legendary male dancer, Vakhtang Chabukiani, was both

star and director. At 12, she uprooted herself from home and family, moving 1,000 miles north to enter the Bolshoi School. "I had been told the Bolshoi was the biggest and the best, so I knew that was where my career had to be."

That same quiet determination took her as guest to New York City Ballet a couple of years back, where she had to learn three new roles in ten days, contending with an unfamiliar style (Balanchine's) and tempi much faster than she had ever experienced. Coming to the Royal Ballet is less traumatic, but she finds Britten's music different and difficult. When I mentioned that the composer studied *The Sleeping Beauty* before writing it, she laughed and replied: "Yes—then stood it on its head! With Tchaikovsky, everything is in fours. This is much more complex."

She also finds it disconcerting that the Royal Ballet teaches the dances by counting the rhythm. "In Russia we are expected to know the music. I love to listen to the music and I have my own thoughts about it. There's a life that's going on inside me while I dance."

Fadeychev comments that "we shall try to dance so that the difficulty doesn't show." He adds that MacMillan's choreography is also something new for them. "The positions are different, and there are different kinds of lifts. When you look at it for the first time, it seems very easy, because there is an easy flow to it. But when you try to put it together, that's another matter. Yesterday, for the first time, we felt we had got there."

One of the reasons behind leaving their home country was



Getting there: Ananiashvili and Fadeychev in rehearsal

the lack of new roles. Ananiashvili has had only one role created for her: the spirit of the dead heroine, in the opera *Madama Butterfly*. Fadeychev seized the chance offered by Vladimir Vasiliev to dance Macbeth, because it was a big dramatic role, and felt a certain chilliness afterwards because of tensions within the company.

"I still danced the classics, but for a time, I didn't dance in Grigorovich's ballets. As dancers, we don't fully understand the politics of these things. That shouldn't come in to it. We just want to work and the career is short enough anyway. The rest should not concern us."

"It would be good to work closely with a choreographer. We don't want to leave Moscow and the Bolshoi—after all, it is our city, our company—but we arrange our schedules so as to fit in as many outside engagements as possible. Those engagements will include a return to Covent Garden for *The Nutcracker* next month."

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TV LONDON

approached with a film offer but claims he is not interested, that is until he hears who is after the starring role (Oracle)

10.00 News at Ten with Sandy Gall and Julia Somerville. Weather 10.30

Thames News and weather

10.40 The City Programme. This week's edition includes items on the pros and cons of electricity privatisation, house prices, and video rentals

Presented by Steve Clarke and Danielle Donougher

11.10 1. A guide to London's entertainment scene. Includes a review of the film *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, and Frank Wharford on Egon Schiele at the Royal Academy

11.40 Prisoners - Call Block H. Hammy Australian soap set in a women's detention centre. Followed by News headlines

12.30am A Problem Altered. Dr John Cobb talks to everyday people with emotional problems

1.00 The Concert. Martin Stephenson and The Delinents at the Town & Country Club, Kenilworth Town

2.00 Film: *Our Miss Fred* (1972) starring Danny La Rue and Alfred Marks. During the second world war, actor Fred Wimburgh is posted to France, where he scores a big hit in the camp show as the heroine. The show is a roaring success but when the Germans arrive Fred is forced to pretend he is a woman or be shot as a spy. A bit like *'Allo, 'Allo* meets the *Carry On* team. Entertaining star vehicle for La Rue, but actually only for his fans. Directed by Bob Kellett. Followed by News headlines

4.00 The Invisable Man (b/w) *Fifties* adventures with the man no one can see. In this take the bandaged hero is the one who has the power

CHANNEL 4.

Political assassin: Jeroen Krabbé (8.00pm)

In individuals then in the worlds they represent. Anyone expecting a discourse on civil rights in Chile will be disappointed. The narrative is deliberately enigmatic, leaving a sinister sense of form and content, and what finally etches Melancholia on the mind is its spare visual quality and its almost surreal treatment of the London locations.

10.45 The Road to Heaven: Documentary about Czechoslovakia made from the inside. A moving account of the effects of communism told by those who lived with it and those who escaped.

11.45 A Week in Politics – Late Sitting presented by Vincent Hanne and Andrew Rawnsley. An in-depth analysis of the Conservative leadership contest, with two former cabinet ministers, Lords Prior and Rippon and Conservative MP Tessa Gorman. Ends at 1.10am

TELLITE

8.36
 10.00 NFL American Football 8:00 Then in
 the Sports Center
 10.30 On Wheels 11:30 Racing 12:00
 SportsCenter 12:30am NFL American
 Football

8:58 NOW
 8:58am The Day Today 8:15 Talking
 To... 9:15 The Late Show 9:00 The Day To-
 day... 9:45 Jane Wollace Show
 10:00 The Night and the Music
 Aerobics 11:00 The Heart of the
 Oregon 12:00 The Day Today 12:00am Su-
 perman 12:30am SportsCenter 1:25
 The Countrywide Show 1:30 You Can Do It
 1:45 Pennington 2:00 Self-Defense 2:30
 10 Guyton 2:45 The Day Today 3:00
 3:30 On the House 4:30 Sex, Lies and
 Love 4:45 Take Six 5:00 5:15 Pennington
 5:30 The Day Today 6:00 The Day Today
 The Countrywide Show 7:00 First Edition
 7:45 You Can Do It 8:00 Guyton
 8:15 The Day Today 8:30 The Day Today 8:45
 Now Listen 10:00 Your World 11:30
 Left, Right and Center 11:30 European
 Baseball 12:00 First Edition
 12:45am VIP

02 4.30 The FBI

on stage

As I Paglia
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Please sen

MUSICIANS
Parish: H M The Que
16 OGLE STREET, L
(REGISTERED CHARITY 22

Not all musical tragedies happen on stage.


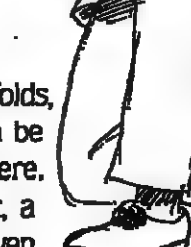
As I Pagliacci unfolds, the real tragedy can be happening elsewhere. In the orchestra pit, a musician who has given his life to music realises that a passage he once knew backwards is now beyond him.

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Government rejects mad cow controls

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE government yesterday rejected two of the main proposals by the Commons agriculture committee for tightening controls on the spread of mad cow disease and eradicating possible sources of infection for humans.

Since 1986, 20,300 cattle, mostly dairy cows, have died from bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) on more than 9,530 farms. About one-fifth of all dairy herds have had at least one case of the disease.

Francis Anthony, chief spokesman for the British Veterinary Association, said that the veterinary profession would be disappointed by the government's response. David Clark, Labour's

agriculture spokesman, said: "The official attitude reeks of complacency. Instead of always waiting for hard scientific evidence, the government should be prepared to take pre-emptive measures."

Ferry Wiggin, the Tory chairman of the committee, praised the overall tone of the government's response, but said he was sorry and surprised that the two proposals had not been accepted. "Although not strictly required by the scientific evidence, we felt they would have helped to boost public confidence," he said.

In its report on the BSE epidemic, which was published on July 10, the committee recommended that farmers be discouraged from breeding from the offspring of BSE-affected cows and that those who did so should forfeit compensation if the resulting animals then developed BSE.

The committee accepted that maternal transmission of BSE had not been proved, but argued that precautionary action was justified in the interests of public confidence.

The government said the committee's recommendation ran counter to the advice of the scientific advisory committee on BSE, headed by Dr David Tyrrell, a leading virologist. Even if maternal transmission were shown to occur, it did not follow that the committee's proposal would represent an effective way of controlling the outbreak.

Withholding compensation would "act as a clear discouragement to reporting suspect disease, even though it is a legal requirement," the government added.

In its nine-page response, the government, in effect the agriculture ministry, rejected equally firmly a proposal that the ban on the sale for human consumption of specified cattle offals, the organs which harbour BSE, should be extended to those from animals under the age of six months.

The government said it had given this question careful consideration but it was satisfied with scientific advice, based on research on sheep, that no infectivity was present in cattle younger than months. Responding to other recommendations made by the agriculture committee, the government said it would introduce legislation soon tightening up regulations on the removal of cattle brains in abattoirs; undertake a feasibility study into the computerisation of records of cattle movements; and ask independent experts to examine the animal feed industry.

New evidence has emerged during the past week that a form of BSE may have been transmitted from a kudu, an exotic antelope, to its offspring in London Zoo. The 19-month-old kudu, born to a mother with BSE, was put down on November 12 after showing nervous symptoms.

Thatcher triggers revolt

Continued from page 1

on with delight at the disarray. By midday, his campaign manager was saying that he needed only 18 more votes to win. David Howell, chairman of the Commons foreign affairs select committee, said: "I don't think you can stop an avalanche halfway."

Mrs Thatcher's declaration that she was going ahead came as she left Downing Street to make a Commons statement on the Paris summit. She said: "I fight on, I fight to win."

After Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, had talked of the "twilight days of her premiership" and said she had lost her authority, an outwardly buoyant Mrs Thatcher was cheered by loyalists for snapping back that the Liberals had supported a socialist government long after it had lost all authority in the Commons. She had not done badly these past 11 and a half years.

Mrs Thatcher will have her last opportunity to swing support behind her in today's Commons no confidence debate. Her vocal supporters were expected to try to undermine Mr Heseltine, who will also be out to advertise his claims to be able to unite the Tory party. But there were indications last night that he was having second thoughts about his decision to speak in the no confidence debate for fear of Labour attempts at disruption turning the Commons into a "bear garden".

The 1922 executive decided against making any formal recommendations to Mrs Thatcher or Mr Heseltine. But Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, a vice chairman, broke ranks saying: "Colleagues would like a wider choice and it would help to clear the air more than if it were left the two to slug it out at the OK Corral."



Stepping out in Downing Street: Denis Thatcher looking jaunty and carefree amid yesterday's dramas

Gorbachev supports Bush

Continued from page 1

dent Assad, Mr Baker, his Secretary of State, would visit Oman and Yemen. Mr Bush had earlier yesterday declared himself to be "on the same wavelength" as President Gorbachev.

Expressing total satisfaction with the support America is receiving from the Soviet Union and from its Western allies in confronting Iraq's aggression, Mr Bush dismissed reports that Moscow and Washington were divided. His personal conviction that the anti-Iraq coalition was holding up well, despite attempts by President Saddam Hussein to generate rifts, provided the clear hint that behind-the-scenes diplomatic manoeuvres in Paris this week have been fruitful.

Mr Baker will face one of his most difficult missions in Yemen when he tries to persuade the government there to support a new UN resolution. Yemen takes over the chairmanship of the security council from the United

States next month. Yemen and Cuba have been the two countries most supportive of Iraq in the security council.

Mr Bush refused to be specific yesterday, but insisted at his news conference: "We're together with the Soviet Union. I saw one report that said my meeting with Mr Gorbachev was chilly. But he told me it was the best meeting we've had. We were really relaxed. If we have differences, they would be extraordinarily minor. We're on the same wavelength."

Mr Bush's tough responses to questions from American journalists appeared to be aimed as much at public and congressional opinion back home as at President Saddam. He said he was very encouraged by the number of leaders who had come to him during the three-day European security summit to thank America for standing up to Iraq.

President Saddam's "cynical play" of releasing hostages, often into the hands of "some visitor",

had backfired. His actions had been universally condemned. Mr Bush expressed anxiety over the conditions being endured by the American diplomats, still in the embassy in Kuwait. The Iraqi leader was trying to starve them out, he said, but they had found a new water supply which could be purified and there was no question of them having to pull down the American flag.

Mr Bush said he and Barbara, his wife, felt fully confident about their personal security during their trip to Saudi Arabia. "There are a lot of young men and women out there who are looking forward to this visit," he said. "I think my own personal safety, and Barbara's, will be guaranteed."

The president will be celebrating Thanksgiving Day today with the troops. "Gosh," he said yesterday, "we have a lot to be thankful for. I'll be trying to express my thanks to the young men and women who are serving out there."

US very close to laying charges over Lockerbie

From MARTIN FLETCHER in WASHINGTON

THE US Justice Department is now very close to having enough evidence to lay charges against the terrorists who carried out the Lockerbie bombing, according to the man who was director of operations and analysis at the CIA's counterterrorism centre until September.

Vincent Cannistraro also asserted that the bombing had been ordered by the Iranian government, in retaliation for the accidental shooting down of an Iranian airline by a US warship earlier in 1988, and that Hashem Rafsanjani, then the Iranian Speaker and now its President, supported that order.

During a lunch with US journalists on Wednesday, and in a telephone interview yesterday, Mr Cannistraro said that all the key elements of the Lockerbie tragedy are now known to investigators on both the criminal and intelligence sides.

"Investigators have made substantial progress in identifying the *modus operandi* by which that bomb got on board," he said. "The who, where, why and when we understand... From an intelligence point of view, the case has been solved." But he acknowledged that that was different from bringing a watertight criminal case.

He would not identify the terrorists. He also acknowledged that they were probably beyond the reach of the law, and did not know when, or even whether, charges would be laid. However, his comments were the first public indication that the largest criminal investigation ever had unearthed

evidence strong enough to stand up in a court of law.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command has long been held responsible for carrying out the bombing, though some recent reports suggest the PFLP-GC might have been replaced by Libyan agents late in the day after its German cell was discovered.

Mr Cannistraro said he was "persuaded" that the Iranian government had ordered the bombing as an act of revenge for the shooting down of an Iranian civilian aircraft by the USS Vincennes, and that a majority of the ruling members of that government made a conscious, joint decision to retaliate.

"It was not a rogue operation," he said, and other flights had also been targeted as part of a planned "air spectacular".

The CIA refused to comment on Mr Cannistraro's assertions, but emphasised that he was not speaking for the agency. Mr Cannistraro is in the unusual situation of having retired in an overt capacity because he was identified as a CIA officer during the trial of Oliver North.

"I consider myself a private citizen. So long as I avoid divulging intelligence details I am OK," he said.

Mr Cannistraro, who recently returned from Egypt, also claimed that there was evidence indirectly linking Iraq with last month's assassination of the Egyptian parliament's Speaker. President Bush has given warning that an Iraqi terrorist outrage could lead to war with the United States.

Liverpool to cut 220 council jobs

THE cash-starved city council of Liverpool voted last night to eliminate 220 municipal jobs in an effort to reduce costs.

The recommendation, a last-ditch attempt to haul the city back from the brink of bankruptcy, was passed after the ruling Labour group agreed to a change of wording on the proposal.

At a meeting of the full council, the Liberal Democrats joined forces with moderate Labour councillors to approve the job cuts, but only once any mention of compulsory redundancies had been deleted from the recommendation.

It is now unclear how the Labour group will enforce the job losses in the grounds and maintenance department.

However, Ian Scott, a moderate Labour councillor who proposed the amendment, made it clear that compulsory redundancies would remain a last resort if 220 workers did not accept their voluntary redundancy.

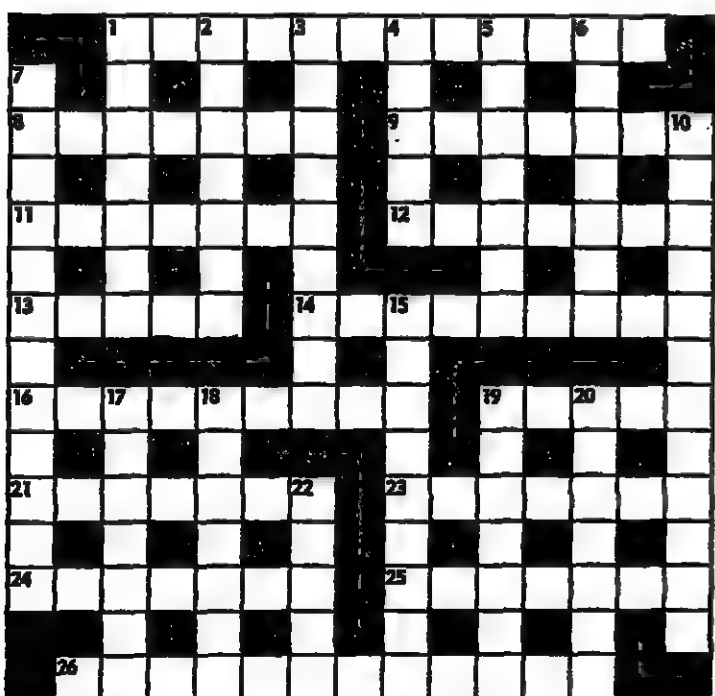
Earlier, the meeting was picketed by an angry crowd of council workers. Tony Jennings, a left-wing councillor, said that workers would resort to all-out strikes if any compulsory redundancies were approved.

However, Harry Rimmer, the leader of the council, said: "This is the only acceptable solution - and the least painful."

About a thousand General Municipal and Boilermakers union members met before yesterday's meeting to discuss their protest strategy. Later some of them marched to the town hall where they proceeded to lobby councillors who were filing in for the emergency meeting.

Flo Clucas, a Liberal Democrat councillor, said that hangers-on from the era when the members of Militant were dominant in the city council were to blame for the loss of the jobs. "If the council had been managed properly over the last eight years there would be no talk of job cuts," she said.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,458



ACROSS

- They avoid friction by department during dances (4-8).
- Loss of flame could be total (7).
- Source of character building is birth (7).
- Playful badger is rough (7).
- Valiant if ill-disposed citizen of Russia (7).
- Family noted for noise (5).
- Governor's deputy knocks back a drink (4-5).
- Style of furniture attracts a royalty (5-4).
- Spots infiltrators (5).
- A stage role for genuine characters (7).
- Lilac is no good in the country (7).

- It takes one important man to immobilise another (7).
- District controlled by a board member? (7).
- Analyse noise of the birds of northern Europe (12).

DOWN

- City register written in good Latin (7).
- Failing to overtake on grass (7).
- Even the old boy could be the scorer (9).
- Sang elegantly showing spirit (5).
- Light railway becoming lighter (7).
- The bird's message for David? (7).
- Midas's original plan for the Yuppie type (3-4-5).
- Appropriate conveyance for Greta Garbo? (6-6).
- Old timer taking the waters (9).
- You, I see, are said to accept the facts about breeding (7).
- After the hall one may be left standing (7).
- Italian who had a signal success (7).
- Sort of slide from top of the Edystone? (7).
- Unmarried men finding endless time in Paris leads to boredom? (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,457

TEPID SOAP OPERA
UNLACED POKER
ON A SHARP PRONG
CINEMA RENAISSANCE
HIT BELOW THE BELT
DANCE SENSATION
ODDITY CONSTANT
WINTER DIVERSION
STRAINING NERVE
CLASH OF ARMED
ACTION EXTRATIME
HIGHS AND LOWS
INCREASED NOISES

Concise crossword, page 15

WEATHER

Mostly dry and cold with some sunshine. Fog and frost in many areas at first, especially over eastern Wales, southern, central and north-west England and southern Scotland, possibly returning during the evening. Cloudy in some areas with showers likely, especially over East Anglia and southeast England. Outlook: fog and frost, clearing as rain spreads slowly eastwards. Snow on northern hills.

ABROAD

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	19/6	SE	100
Athens	18/12	SE	100
Bombay	24/25	SE	100
Buenos Aires	22/25	SE	100
Cairo	21/20	SE	100
Colon	27/21	SE	100
Hong Kong	25/21	SE	100
London	15/10	SE	100
Madras	27/21	SE	100
Manila	27/21	SE	100
Medan	27/21	SE	100
Perth	19/10	SE	100
Rangoon	27/21	SE	100
Singapore	27/21	SE	100
Tokyo	15/10	SE	100
Yokohama	15/10	SE	100

AROUND BRITAIN

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100
Abertawe	11/12	SE	100

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- TOPHUS**
a. Basil or bell
b. A gony deposit
c. Roman temple
- QUINMETER**
a. A Sapphic metre
b. A first measure
c. A perimeter measure
- WEEW**
a. To burst
b. To suckle a baby
c. A subterranean dwelling
- OSSETER**
a. A horse's hindquarters
b. A sex inspector
c. A kind of sturgeon

Answers on page 22

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M-ways/roads M1-Oxford T. 733
M-ways/roads Dartford T. 734
M-ways/roads M25-M4 735
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

National traffic and roadworks
National motorways 737
West Country 738
Wales 739
Midlands 740
East Anglia 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

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LONDON

Temperature: 11°C to 15°C, 50°F to 59°F, 70°F (MSP); rain 6 pm to 8 pm, 30-40%; wind: 6 pm, 6 pm, 6 pm; per cent. Rain: 24 to 8 pm, 0.1 in. Sun: 24 to 8 pm, 0.3 in. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1005.7 mbars, rising. Rain: 24 to 8 pm, 0.1 in. 1,000 mbars = 1013.25 in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday's high: 15°C (59°F), 59°F; low: 11°C (52°F), 52°F; rain: 0.1 in. Today's high: 15°C (59°F), 59°F; low: 11°C (52°F), 52°F; rain: 0.1 in.

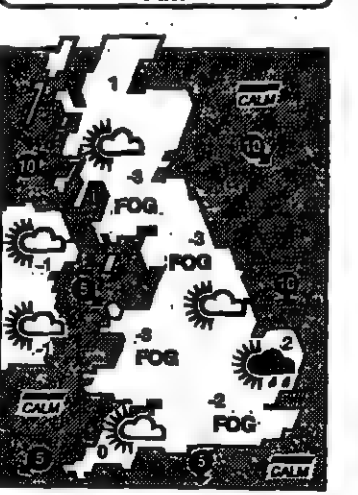
MANCHESTER

Temperature: 11°C to 15°C, 50°F to 59°F, 70°F (MSP); rain 6 pm to 8 pm, 30-40%; wind: 6 pm, 6 pm, 6 pm; per cent. Rain: 24 to 8 pm, 0.1 in. Sun: 24 to 8 pm, 0.3 in. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1005.7 mbars, rising. Rain: 24 to 8 pm, 0.1 in. 1,000 mbars = 1013.25 in.

GLASGOW

Temperature: 11°C to 15°C, 50°F to 59°F, 70°F (MSP); rain 6 pm to 8 pm, 30-40%; wind: 6 pm, 6 pm, 6 pm; per cent. Rain: 24 to 8 pm, 0.1 in. Sun: 24 to 8 pm, 0.3 in. Bar: mean sea level, 6 pm, 1005.7 mbars, rising. Rain: 24 to 8 pm, 0.1 in. 1,000 mbars = 1013.25 in.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 4.00 pm to 7.25 pm
Edinburgh 4.55 pm to 7.41 pm
Belfast 4.55 pm to 7.41 pm
Manchester 4.55 pm to 7.41 pm
Preston 4.55 pm to 7.41 pm

YESTERDAY

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Belfast	8/10	SE	100
Edinburgh	8/10	SE	100
London	8/10	SE	100
Manchester	8/10	SE	100
Preston	8/10	SE	100
Sheffield	8/10	SE	100
Wolverhampton	8/10	SE	100
Wrexham	8/10	SE	100

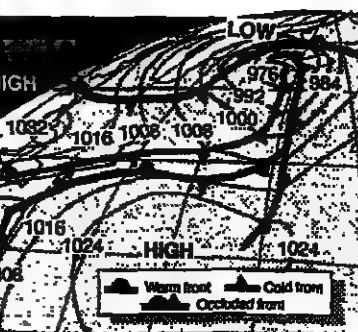
HIGH TIDES

Location	Time	Height
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6
London Bridge	4.00	8.6

NOON TODAY

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Belfast	11/15	SE	100
Edinburgh	11/15	SE	100
London	11/15	SE	100
Manchester	11/15	SE	100
Preston	11/15	SE	100
Sheffield	11/15	SE	100
Wolverhampton	11/15	SE	100
Wrexham	11/15	SE	100

NOON TODAY



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BUSINESS

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 22 1990

Electricity to be floated at 240p a share

By MARTIN WALLER

THE flotation price of the 12 electricity distribution companies in England and Wales has been set at 240p a share, with early indications from the market that in present conditions investors can expect a healthy premium on their first payment of 100p a share after dealings start on December 11.

John Wakeham, the energy secretary, yesterday revealed the price and the respective dividend yields of the 12, which were all largely in line with earlier forecasts. In unofficial dealings on the "grey market", however, one of the 12 shot ahead by as much as 30p.

Northern, which offers investors the greatest yield on their investment, was initially quoted at 130p by IG Index, the financial bookmaker. Others were at premiums of more than 20p to the part-paid price. The prices dropped back by about 3p in the afternoon, as more sellers emerged than buyers.

Dealers said business on the power grey market had been some way ahead of levels experienced in other privatisations.

Advisers to the flotation were noticeably relieved that the expected bloodbath on the stock market had not materialised, after the inconclusive first poll in the Conservative

leadership election. Mr Wakeham was questioned on the implications for the flotation.

"I don't see any signs of any serious effects on the stock market or sterling," he said. "The results of the leadership election, even if there's a third ballot, will be known and settled even before applications have to be in."

Underwriting took place among 19 banks late on Tuesday night, at a commission rate of 0.17 per cent, lower than had been achieved in the water flotation last year when the rate was 0.1735 per cent, he said. Sub-underwriting was duly completed yesterday afternoon.

Mr Wakeham also dismissed possible danger arising from any United Nations ultimatum to Iraq, despite the inclusion of a special provision allowing the underwriters to pull the issue if war breaks out in the Gulf.

"There's no ultimatum, so far as I know. In any case, there would also have to be a fall in the market, and there hasn't been that either."

But advisers later conceded that the government does retain the right to scrap or postpone the flotation of its own accord right up to the point when dealings start, and a period of turbulence on the market, perhaps because of the continuing political uncertainty, could still trigger such a move.

What the government can

no longer change is the price. Mini-prospectuses will go out next week to the 7.3 million potential investors who have registered an interest in the issue, while application forms will also appear in the national press.

Completed forms must be in by 10 am on Wednesday December 5, and the basis of allocation should be announced the next Monday.

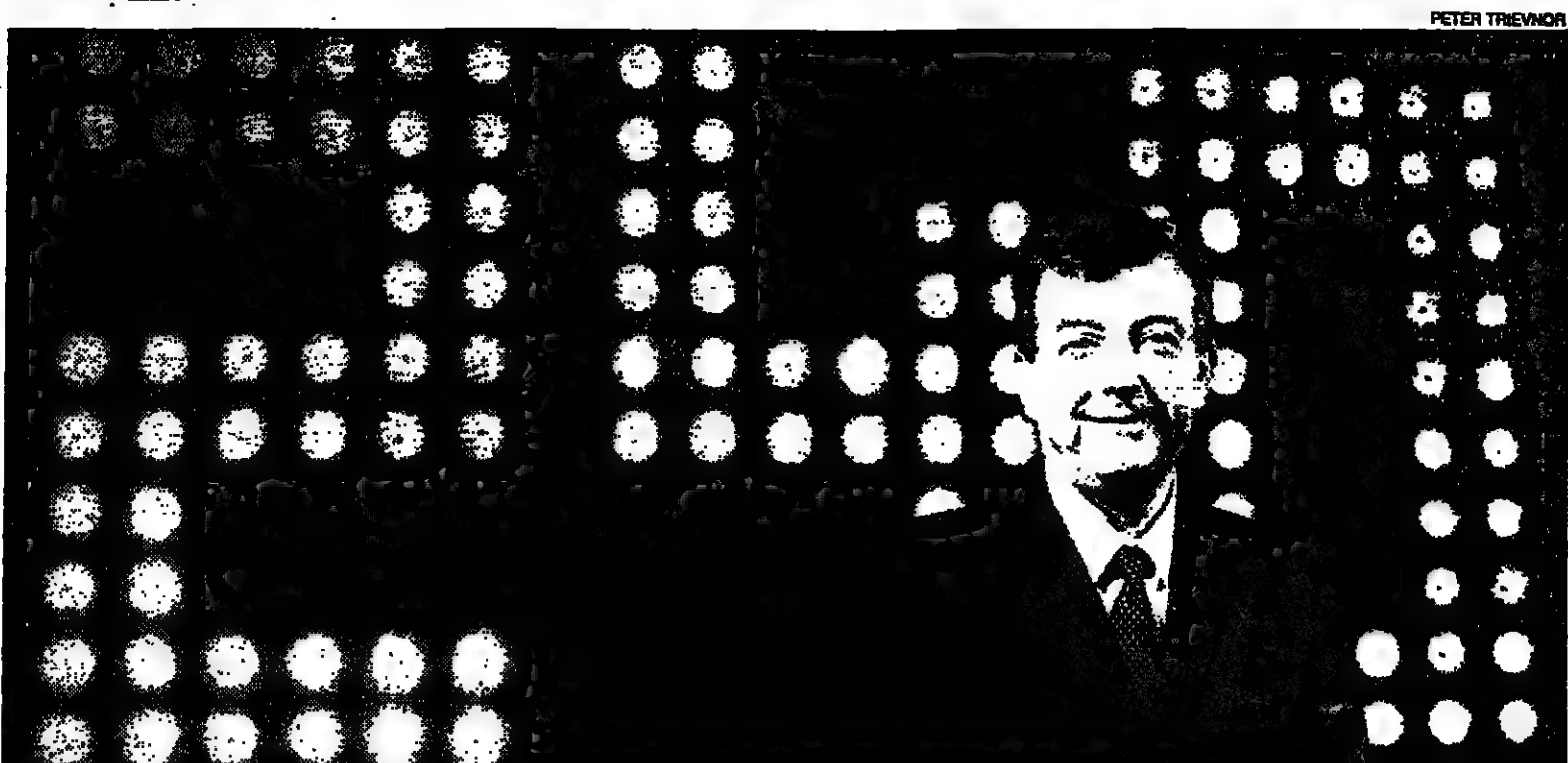
There will be the usual delay before allotment letters are sent out to the retail investor, in this case of eight days.

At the start, 34.4 per cent of the near-2.2 billion shares in issue will be offered to the general public, 45.6 per cent to British institutions and the remaining 20 per cent overseas. But if full clawback provisions are triggered, the retail investor will get 54.6 per cent, some way ahead of the 47 per cent offered in the water flotation.

The 1 per cent spread in the indicated yields is designed to handicap those companies, mainly in the South, that are seen as benefiting from demographic trends or from a higher proportion of domestic consumers.

Analysts have queried, however, whether advisers to the flotation have done their sums correctly. "This, in the end, is not equalising things out. This is addressing the public perceptions that have already been formed," commented one, who could not be named.

Another, Nigel Hawkins, at Hoare Govett, was concerned that an 8.4 per cent average yield was not sufficiently ahead of what was available from the water package, which yields about 7.6 per cent at present. He believes the gap should be about 0.4 per cent once dealings start, given the riskier nature of the electricity companies. A hefty premium in the after-market could wipe out the current gap entirely.



Up in lights: John Wakeham yesterday unveiling the fully paid electricity share price as 240p which Labour attacked as an undervaluation

Sterling resilient despite Tory fight

THE pound proved surprisingly resilient, gaining nearly three quarters of a penny against the mark, despite the political uncertainty caused by the Conservative party leadership contest (Colin Nibbrough writes).

After firming gradually during the day, the pound closed at DM2.9157, compared with its DM2.9089 finish on Tuesday, which came ahead of the announcement that the first ballot of the Tory leadership contest had been inconclusive.

But sterling did not perform as well against the dollar. After easing back during the afternoon, it closed at \$1.9683, down 20 points on its previous finish. On the Bank of England trade-weighted index sterling finished at 94, a drop of 0.2 point from Tuesday.

Shares followed the fortunes of the pound, with the FT-SE 100 index rising 11.1 points to close at 2,126.3.

Guinness £518m buys top Spanish brewer

From GRAHAM SEARJEANT IN LONDON AND HARRY DEBELIUS IN MADRID

GUINNESS has beaten stiff international competition to buy Cruzcampo, the biggest brewer in Spain, in a £518 million cash deal.

The takeover, agreed by holders of more than half the shares in Cruzcampo, will give Guinness a fifth of the Spanish beer market, boosts the stout, lager and spirits group's beer sales by nearly a quarter and raises its brewing profits by almost half.

The acquisition, which involves a general offer to shareholders, is Guinness's first big strategic move into the continental beer market and will make Spain second only to Ireland in its beer operations. Guinness said the addition of Cruzcampo would make its beer division the

Eagle Star problems hurt BAT

By JOHN BELL CITY EDITOR

BAT Industries' profits in the third quarter plunged 90 per cent to £41 million after a series of problems hit the group's Eagle Star insurance operations.

Profits over the first nine months of the year were 44 per cent down at £599 million, much lower than market expectations. But BAT shares rose 4p to 561p buoyed by a promise that last year's final dividend would be maintained, and by Eagle Star's determination to press for aggressive rate increases.

Eagle Star's policy of crediting unrealised investment gains or losses led to an exceptional £212 million charge due to low stock market levels at the end of the third quarter. Before the charge, Eagle Star reported a loss of £51 million for nine months, with underwriting losses of £316 million.

BAT's other financial services companies made progress. Farmers, the US group, contributed £247 million to group trading profit, a 9 per cent rise, and Allied Dunbar made £85 million. Financial services contributed trading profits of £63 million compared to £564 million in the first three quarters of 1989.

BAT's mainstream tobacco interests boosted trading profit by 13 per cent at constant exchange rates to £703 million.

Earnings per share fell 68 per cent to 39.75p over the nine-month period.

TELLING THEM APART

How the 12 break down, ranked by dividend yield

	Market Cap (£m)	No of shares (m)	Gross div yield (%)
1 Eastern	848	270	8.03
2 Southern	848	270	8.03
3 SEEDBOARD	306	127	8.20
4 London	529	173	8.28
5 Midlands	503	205	8.36
6 East Midlands	523	215	8.36
7 South Western	296	123	8.44
8 Yorkshire	427	173	8.57
9 Yorkshire	415	173	8.57
10 South Wales	244	102	8.67
11 Merseyside	285	119	8.89
12 Northern	295	123	9.03

Labour pledges not to renationalise

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE government's privatisation of the electricity supply industry would be modified by a Labour government, which would, however, stop short of renationalisation.

Labour is critical of the privatisation, arguing that the structures that the government has put in place are flawed. Frank Dobson, the shadow energy secretary, yesterday attacked the government's announcement of the pricing of electricity shares, insisting that it amounted to "grand larceny" by the government because of the level of their undervaluation. Rhodri Morgan, Labour's energy spokesman, said the 240p shares were undervalued by up to 30 per cent.

Labour would bring the national grid back into public ownership, though it has not been decided whether a Labour government would renege it all, or take only a minority shareholding. Labour believes that the cost of renationalisation would not be too prohibitive, since it says the debt base of the grid of about £500 million exceeds its assets of about £760 million.

Labour would introduce

C&W increases 25% to £301m

Lord Young of Grafton, the former trade secretary, has announced a 25 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £301 million, in his debut presentation of half year results at Cable and Wireless.

Lord Young, the chairman of the international telecoms group, who replaced Lord Sharp a month ago, said adverse currency movements had held back progress in the half year ending September. At the trading level, currencies cut profits by £24 million. Turnover rose 16 per cent to £1,264 million. The interim dividend is 3.7p (3.1p).

RHM tumbles

Ranks Hovis McDougall, the baking and cakes company, reported a 24 per cent slump in pre-tax profits to £133.2 million (£176.5 million) for the year to September 1, after charging £17 million against profits to cover restructuring costs. The biggest single factor in the decline was a collapse in property profits from £17.3 million to £4.9 million. The company was also hit by reduced sales. A final dividend of 8.92p means an unchanged full-year payout of 12.74p.

Courtaulds up

Courtaulds, the speciality materials group that floated off its textile interests in March, reported interim pre-tax profits of £87.1 million (£70.9 million) and a 10 per cent increase in the interim dividend to 3.4p a share.

Interim profits slide at 15 banks

By NEIL BENNETT BANKING CORRESPONDENT

Invulnerable Japanese feel the pinch

THE GIANTS of Japanese banking, which until recently were thought to be invulnerable to the perils that have devastated their Western rivals, have finally revealed their feet of clay.

The country's 12 top city, or commercial, banks, and three long-term credit banks, announced net profit falls ranging from 9 to 34 per cent for the half year to end-September. All have suffered a squeeze on their interest margins, and watched as the slump in the Tokyo stock market wiped trillions of yen from the value of their securities holdings.

Dai-ichi Kangyo, the world's largest bank, reported a 33 per cent fall in net profits to ¥53.7 billion (£211 million). It also gave a warning that its full-year profit would be ¥100 billion, down 36 per cent.

Japanese banks tend to travel in a

Patten go-ahead on Chelsea's ground

By JONATHAN PRYNN

CABRA Estates, the property company that owns the grounds used by Fulham and Chelsea football clubs, has received the go-ahead from Chris Patten, the environment secretary, for proposals to redevelop its Stamford Bridge site.

John Duggan, chairman and chief executive of Cabra Estates, said the company was "reviewing all the options" for the 11.7-acre site. One of these is the sale of the site to a management consortium led by Ken Bates, the Chelsea FC chairman.

Reign in Spain, page 27

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Payout cut at Brown Shipley

A SLUMP in corporate finance fees and loss from stockbroking have forced Brown Shipley, the merchant bank, to cut its dividend for the six months to end-September by a third to 3p.

The bank said its profits were "significantly below" the first half last year. Like other merchant banks, it does not have to publish full interim figures.

The group also gave warning that its full-year figures would be significantly below last year's.

Airplan collapse
American Airplan, the tour operator, has collapsed. The company, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, is a fully bonded member of the Association of British Travel Agents, so anyone abroad or planning to travel would be protected. Administrative receivers were called in two days ago.

No referral

Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, is not referring the acquisition of Hoskyns Group, the computer services company, by Cap Gemini Societe to the monopolies commission. CGS made a full bid in July when it bought 69.5 per cent of Hoskyns from Plessey.

CMB issue

CMB Packaging Holdings is raising a maximum of £200 million through a private placement of seven-year preference shares. The issue is being fully subscribed, at £100 million each, by Barclays Bank and National Westminster Bank.

Steel deal

British Steel has agreed to buy out its partners in Tuscaloosa Steel Corporation, of Alabama. Tuscaloosa, with net assets of \$21 million, operates a rolling mill. A price for the deal has still to be finalised.

Business rate level 'adds to pressure on inflation'

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE government has unnecessarily added to inflationary pressures in the economy by setting this year's uniform business rate (UBR) in line with inflation, chambers of commerce are telling the prime minister.

The British Chambers of Commerce Association, in a submission to Mrs Thatcher's policy unit, headed by Professor Brian Griffiths, called on the government to make significant changes to the UBR system.

The chambers make it clear they support the system, but an unpublished paper from their policy unit, says: "British chambers of commerce have become most concerned at the inflexibility shown by the government during the first year of the new system. It is in the government's interest to respond to these difficulties and develop the system to meet the needs of business."

The chambers say that failings in a "fundamentally new" system are not surprising, but they urge the government to be pragmatic and develop the system in the light of particular difficulties. The CBI has also suggested reforms of the UBR.

The chambers recommend changes in five areas:

□ 1991-2 rate. The chambers are "deeply disappointed" that the government has linked the rate from April to the September RPI figure of 10.9 per cent, because that month's RPI reflected a number of extraordinary circum-

stances, including high mortgage and interest rates, and high fuel prices.

These costs will be built in to businesses until April 1992, just as the government is forecasting that inflation will fall to less than 6 per cent in 1991. The chambers said: "At a time when businesses are being asked to control wage demands and control prices, the government has unnecessarily compounded inflationary pressures."

□ Transitional arrangements. The Treasury should fully fund arrangements to help businesses meet large-scale increases in one year.

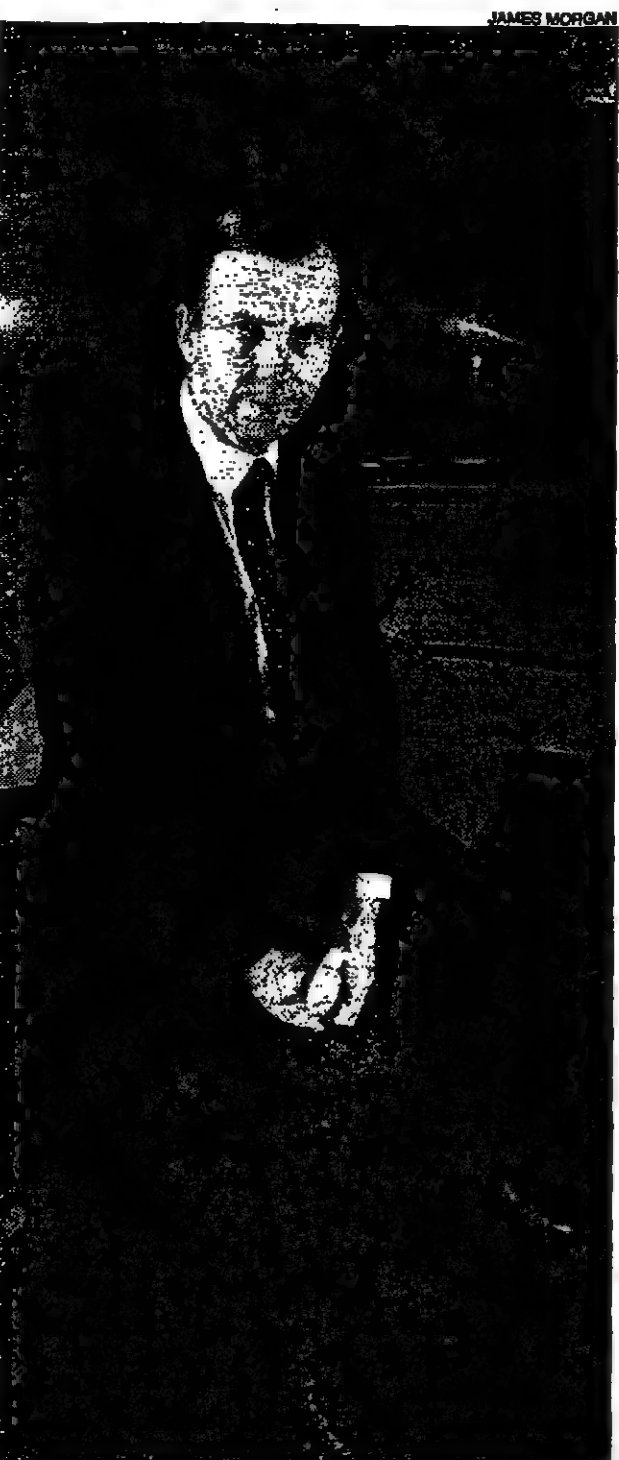
□ Surplus. The chambers believe the Treasury has taken account of a £400 million 1990-1 surplus, produced by the then-buoyancy of the business base, to lessen its own contribution.

□ Yield. The BOC says that as the number and size of businesses in the economy grows, the yield from businesses will grow, while the yield from the poll tax and from the government will not. This will mean business paying proportionately more year by year. To remedy this, the chambers say the total business take should not rise by more than inflation.

□ Redistribution. The chambers suggest some local employment measure should be used to inform the redistribution mechanism, which is designed to reduce business susceptibility to large swings in local authority finance.

Whitbread trade warning

By PHILIP PANGALOS



Profit cheer: Sam Whitbread, the chairman, yesterday

WHITBREAD and Company, the beer, food and leisure group, unveiled a solid 16 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £149.1 million in the six months to September 1, but gave a warning that future trading will be more difficult. Sam Whitbread, the chairman, said: "There is no doubt that the UK trading environment has led to worsening trading conditions in recent weeks, but we will continue to trade better than our competitors."

Group turnover rose by 5.2 per cent to £1.04 billion. The company said that it would have shown a growth of 11.1 per cent after allowing for acquisitions and disposals.

Peter Jarvis, group chief executive, said: "Despite the need to reorganise much of the business following the MMC enquiry and an increasingly difficult economic environment, our strong performance of 1989 has continued into the current year."

The beer division, which now relates to the production, distribution and marketing of beer, improved trading profits by 12 per cent to £42.3 million, on turnover ahead 24 per cent at £460 million.

Mr Jarvis added: "Our financial position is extremely sound. Net assets are in excess of £2.6 billion and net borrowings are less than 10 per cent of net assets." Interest costs fell from £24.5 million to £6.3 million, benefiting from the disposal of the wines and spirits businesses.

Earnings per share rose by 15.4 per cent to 24.9p (21.6p), helped by a steady share price at 25 pence, while fully diluted earnings climbed from 21.23p to 24.68p. The interim dividend is improved by 13.2 per cent to 4.3p (3.8p). County NatWest Wood-Mac, the broker, is looking for full-year pre-tax profits of £291 million.

Whitbread 'A' shares lost 6p to 425p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Readicut down 37% as demand falls away

READICUT International, the textiles to upholstery group, suffered a 37.5 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £5.31 million in the six months to end-September. The company blamed the decline on substantial shortfalls in demand for car carpets and the downturn in the domestic carpet market. Alan Dodman, deputy chairman, said: "Since the half year, we are profitable. The problems are now behind us."

Group turnover slipped from £111 million to £107.5 million. About 40 per cent of the total came from exports and the group's overseas companies, which accounted for about half of profits. Trading profits slid from £9.81 million to £6.99 million, while interest costs climbed from £1.3 million to £1.67 million. Earnings per share are reduced from 2.95p to 1.84p, but the interim dividend is maintained at 0.63p.

Shani Group profits fall

SHANI Group, the USM-quoted designer and supplier of ladies' and children's wear, suffered a 24 per cent decline in pre-tax profits to £1.89 million in the year to end-July. Earnings per share slipped from 11.3p to 9p, but the final dividend is maintained at 2.4p, for an unchanged total of 4p for the year. The shares lost 1p to 53p.

Simon in US acquisition

SIMON Engineering has acquired the assets of Toxcon Engineering Company of Houston, Texas, for \$3.2 million, of which \$700,000 will be deferred for one year. Toxcon is an environmental consulting company specialising in industrial process, air quality and site remediation work with clients in the oil, chemical and petrochemical industries.

Nestlé first half down

NESTLÉ, the world's largest food company, forecast lower profits for this year because of the strong Swiss franc and the Gulf confrontation, but said it was confident about prospects next year. Nestlé earned a 1989 consolidated net profit of 2.41 billion Swiss francs (£980 million) on sales of £8.04 billion Swiss francs.

In the first six months this year, it posted a 975 million Swiss franc net profit, down 4.7 per cent from a year earlier. Nestlé had expected net profit this year to at least match 1989 levels.

Lead for UK, New Matrix chief named

BRITAIN could become the leading European supplier of electronics components, Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, told a conference organised by the trade department. He said UK companies were well-placed to take advantage of potential markets in Europe, adding that some UK plants were already outperforming sister plants elsewhere in the world.

A NEW chairman and chief executive has been appointed to Matrix Churchill, the Iraqi-controlled Coventry machine tool maker de-stabilised by the freezing of Iraqi assets precipitated by the Gulf confrontation. He is Keith Bailey, the head of Automation Investments, a Birmingham lathe maker that has signed heads of agreement to buy Matrix.

John Foster declines

SHARES in John Foster & Son, the Bradford worsted cloth and mohair fabric weaver, fell 10p to 31p after the company went into the red and axed its interim dividend.

The group slid to a pre-tax loss of £928,000 in the half year to end-August, compared with a profit of £711,000 last time and there was an operating loss of £684,000, against profits of £857,000 previously. Turnover fell from £16.5 million to £12.8 million. Victor Watson, chairman, said the question of a final dividend will be considered when full year results are known.

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily change (%)	Yearly change (%)	Daily change (pts)	Yearly change (pts)
The World (free)	107.0	-0.3	-33.7	-0.5	-25.1
EAPE (free)	980.9	-0.3	-37.0	-0.6	-32.3
Europe (free)	100.8	-0.3	-37.1	-0.9	-32.5
North America (free)	130.7	-0.1	-20.1	-0.3	-17.9
Asia Pacific (free)	130.7	-0.1	-20.1	-0.3	-17.9
Latin America (free)	130.7	-0.1	-20.1	-0.3	-17.9
Australia	130.7	-0.1	-20.1	-0.3	-17.9
Japan	130.7	-0.1	-20.1	-0.3	-17.9
UK	130.7	-0.1	-20.1	-0.3	-17.9
USA	130.7	-0.1	-20.1	-0.3	-17.9

(pt) Local currency. Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT 1,475	CUK 1,146	Lorrie 700	Sobe 398
Abey Hall 2,142	Cookson 818	Lucas 1,222	Sough 1,222
Admiral 888	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781
Anglo 887	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781
Anglo 887	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781
Anglo 887	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781
Anglo 887	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781
Anglo 887	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781
Anglo 887	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781
Anglo 887	Courtauld 2,218	Margeson 689	Smith & A 1,781

RECENT ISSUES

Equities	Equities	Equities	Equities
Atlantic Resources 37	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135	Low Wp Np 15
Brabant Plac 152	St James Plac 143	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Cam Group 25	Smaller IT 87	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Castle Carr (20p) 29	Stand Platform 190	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Charmant Int (100p) 40	Ti Sun Growth 92	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
ECU Tr 36	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
EPN Jew Tr 155	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Faber Prost 36	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Golden Hope 131	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Leading Ls New 2	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Loverdale 22	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
M&W Plc 77	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Malaya Capital 25	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Midland Radio 85	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Nth Investors 155	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Parmentour 35	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135
Pelican Gp 36	Uni Group 109	Probus Int 78	Caution Np 135

Manpower pulls out of sale

By JONATHAN FRYNN

MANPOWER, the American employment agency group, has abandoned plans to sell its non-core British businesses to a management buyout team after the banks financing the deal forced a revision of the price.

The buyout ran into difficulties in October because of a technical hitch which reduced the quality of the security being offered to Barclays and Citibank, the senior lenders to the buyout team.

A revised deal was proposed with an undisclosed, lower price but was rejected by Mitchell Fromstein, Man-

power's chairman and chief executive.

Paul Brooks, chairman of Prudential Venture Managers, the venture capital firm leading the deal, said he was "very disappointed" that the sale was not going ahead. Manpower has said it does not intend to seek alternative buyers for the businesses.

Arrest made over Erskine bear raid

By MARTIN WALLER

A MAN has been arrested in connection with the hoax bear raid on the shares of Erskine House, the office equipment group, which led to a share price collapse in August.

The arrest, yesterday morning, followed an investigation by the International Stock Exchange's insider dealing group in a joint operation with Greater Manchester Police. The man was arrested on suspicion of offences under section 47 of the Financial Services Act, which deals with putting false information into the market.

He was subsequently allowed out on police bail for two months and has not been charged.

A spokeswoman for Greater Manchester Police said it was not the force's policy to reveal names of those arrested.

The hoax telephone calls, to market-makers on August 21, claimed to be from an Erskine board director who wanted to sell some shares and who said that the chairman, Brian McGillivray, also wanted to sell part of his holding. The story was denied by the group's broker, but the shares fell from 64p to 45p before recovering to 54p.

Sketchley slump prompts sell-off

By ANGELA MACKAY

SKETCHLEY, the troubled cleaning and vending business, suffered a worse than expected slump for the six months ended September 28, reporting a pre-tax loss of £5.5 million, compared with a profit of £4.9 million previously. The interim dividend was cancelled.

As a result, the new management is seeking buyers for the vending division and for Meliorata, the computer sales and maintenance business.

Net gearing has been reduced from 198 per cent to 84 per cent since March, and the sale of the two divisions should remove debt altogether. The company will be left with its original core businesses, dry cleaning and textile services.

The results of these divisions were disappointing after the hot, dry summer caused a big drop in turnover. Overall, sales for the six months dropped from £92.2 million to £85.8 million.

A rights issue in June raised £20 million, which helped push working capital from £12.9 million to £14.3 million. Shareholders' funds have grown from £30 million to £48.8 million. Shares closed 3p lower at 75p.

Waddington Turtle hopes

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

JOHN Waddington, the packaging to games group, expects to sell Teenage Mutant Hero Turtle games and puzzles worth £1.8 million this year, the bulk of them at Christmas. Waddington has devised a turtle board game but expects its turtle figures and painting by numbers kits, for which it has exclusive licence, to be its best sellers.

The games division was boosted by Cluedo sales after the game became a television series and the first world Cluedo championships that were held to coincide with Agatha Christie's centenary. The 18 per cent growth in the sale of games, now the company's smallest division, could not, however, push group pre-tax profits above last year's level.

Pre-tax profits for the six months to end September fell

from £9.04 million to £8.02 million largely because of the absence of property profits that contributed £1.72 million in the first half last year. Sales fell from £11.7 million to £11.4 million. Operating profit was marginally up from £9.32 million to £9.4 million and the interest charge fell from £2 million to £1.8 million. Earnings per share fell from 8.49p to 7.56p and the dividend is unchanged at 3.6p.

The packaging division increased profits from £4.76 million to £5.4 million on the back of demand for food packaging. Waddington has the patent for a device for browning and crisping of microwave cooked pies and pizzas. The business forms and specialist printing division saw profits fall from £3.08 million to £2.17 million. David Perry, chief executive, said the business forms market is over supplied and trading was difficult.

The gearing ratio has fallen from about 60 per cent to 54 per cent and will be about 50 per cent at the year end, slightly up on last year. The group has finished the bulk of its rationalisation programme and trading in the second half so far is slightly ahead of the first half.

Profits for the full year are expected to be in line with last year's £17.6 million. Waddington shares fell 4p to 122p.

COMPANY BRIEFS

RADIO CLYDE (Fin)	Advertising revenue grew by 4 per cent, with most of the growth coming in the first three quarters. Turnover stood at £3.38m (£2.76m).
FORWARD GROUP (Int)	Turnover climbed from £4.58m to £5.09m. Interest payments rose from £115,000 to £189,000. Group expects satisfactory second-half.
J & S PATHOLOGY (Int)	The results were affected by a decline in business in mid-July. East patients, and the loss of three contracts from Kuwait and Iraq.
GOLDEN HOPE PLANTIN	Interim results. Last time's pre-tax profit was £880.1m. There was an extraordinary profit of £156,000, from a West Malaysian tax credit.

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Electricity: a well perked package

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

On the matter of electricity privatisation, the government cannot win and the share buyer cannot lose. It is a fair indication of the headroom built into the pricing of the issue at 240p that the Tory leadership issue necessitated no shift in the offer for sale terms. A target of 240p a share and a yield basis of 8.4 per cent was written into the confidential documents weeks ago. Neither the Gulf nor Michael Heseltine knocked the asking price.

The best guide to the issue price comes not from the underwriters, the analysts and the merchant bankers, but from the Labour party. Shadow energy secretary Frank Dobson described the price as "grand larceny".

He maintained that the audited accounts show that the assets of the electricity companies now being sold off are worth more than £16 billion. These assets are to be sold off for about £5 billion.

While it is possible to take issue over the "worth" of the assets, given that the real value of assets is what they can earn

rather than what they originally cost, the thrust of Mr Dobson's calculations is beyond dispute. Electricity is being sold at a price which is favourable to the investor, even in the current unsettled situation. It follows that as and when conditions return to normal, when we have a prime minister whose tenure at Number 10 is not in immediate dispute, the price will look to have been "a steal". That, the government hopes, will put a solid floor under the planned flotations of the generating companies next year. It will, nevertheless, appear to substantiate the Labour party charge.

The underwriters are delighted. At a minimum of £150 million a hand, some of the regular lead underwriters such as Singer & Friedlander rightly decided that they should not sit at the table, however favourable the odds. But those who could join the game without risking the bank are on the nearest thing

there is to a one-way bet. If the bullets start to fly in the Gulf, the underwriting agreement may let them agree to abandon the issue.

The risks that remain, then, are the domestic ones and there is no reason to suppose that a Heseltine at Downing Street would be any more unfavourable than continuation of the ancient régime. As for the position of the Labour party on electricity, its first priority on taking office is unlikely to be to do damage to the invested savings of millions of voters. Renationalisation of the grid, while damaging to profits of the distribution companies, would in no sense be terminal.

Meanwhile, investors are offered a well perked package which on certain assumptions

drives the first year yield on invested funds to beyond 40 per cent. The shares are a banker for pension funds and would-be private investors should not hesitate to complete the application forms for their own distribution companies.

simple, that the sum of a company's parts is usually greater than the whole. It is not new, but usually correct as Rascal Electronics has subsequently admitted with its own plans for a three-way demerger.

City institutions were mightily relieved that BAT shot Sir James' fox with its own plan for unbundling its paper and packaging group, Wiggins Teape Appleton and Argos, its British retailing business. But the old BAT at least churned out a growing stream of dividends from its diversified interests while ever striving to lift the perceived quality of its earnings.

While old BAT's many cylinders rarely all fired together, the overall returns were not at all bad. But after BAT's grisly third quarter figures showing a 68 per cent drop in earnings this year, the reluctant backers of the BAT's demerger may now hanker after the good old days.

Shorn of the stable income

streams from Argos and WTA, but left with Eagle Star, the group's earnings can flip up and down according to the level of the stock market on a single day at the end of each quarter and to the sharp swings of the general insurance underwriting cycle.

Apart from the disastrous and now discontinued property indemnity cover which was very much an Eagle Star speciality, the £316 million underwriting losses after nine months are much in line with the sector. More controversial is the £212 million charge for unrealised investment losses arising from accounting policies which have found favour with the Fru alone of the majors in the industry. The idea of crediting unrealised gains and losses has a double negative. It flatters at the top of bull markets, when caution is a virtue and hurts at the bottom, when there are usually plenty of other bad news besides.

Sir James can console himself that he catalysed moves to enhance shareholder value. The institutions can claim that they have received it. But no-one should be entirely content with the end result.

Drinking to genius of Guinness's reign in Spain



Spanish sign up: Tennant (right) and Mendez

ONE of the advantages for Spain of joining the European Community was to attract investment and technology in all but a few strategic industries. While Germans and Italians are beginning to look more longingly at Eastern Europe, British companies feel much more comfortable south of the Pyrenees.

Last year, the British put in about £800 million, excluding property, accounting for a third of all EC investment in Spain. The £518 million agreed acquisition of the country's biggest brewing group by Guinness should ensure the British (and Irish) maintain their place.

Buying Cruzcampo is by far the most ambitious expansion by Guinness on its brewing side. Beer profits, mainly from the eponymous stout, have been growing strongly for several years and will rise from £124 million to a likely £160 million in 1990. Yet this would be only a quarter of the group's profits from spirits.

Cruzcampo, which holds 22 per cent of the Spanish beer market, but dominates its home region of Andalusia, made £58 million pre-tax in 1989 and will be second only to Guinness's Irish operations. Stout will be trimmed from 60 to 40 per cent of beer sales.

Thanks to its unique product and the lack of a tied estate, Guinness has become far more international than any other British brewer. On the world stage, only Heineken and Carlsberg have taken the same approach to building international operations and international brands. Elders has similar ambitions, but Anheuser-Busch, the world's biggest brewer, has ventured only fitfully outside America.

Pioneering brewery operations in Africa and Asia have been complemented in recent years by a bewildering series of alliances, licences, and distribution deals. Such deals, which owe more to the marketing practices of the international spirits business than to brewing traditions, have given Guinness interests in breweries in 30 countries and sales in 120. Heineken

and Carlsberg are partners in some territories and deadly rivals in others. In Spain, Guinness has a two-year distribution deal with Heineken, which controls the second biggest brewer.

This complex strategy involves a twin drive to gain shares in beer markets, which are predominantly regional or national, and to build truly international brands.

Guinness is under-represented on the Continent. Spain has proved one of the weakest spots for the spirits business, but was attractive as

a continental base for lager. The market is still growing there at about 4 per cent a year (compared with zero growth in Britain).

Cruzcampo was available because the American Stroh group, which owned 28 per cent, was pulling in its horns and the leading family felt that international experience was needed to maintain the pace of growth. Ignacio Ybarra Mendez, Cruzcampo's chairman, said his company decided this year that it had reached the limit of what it could achieve on its own.

Anthony Tennant, chairman of Guinness, was equally keen to buy a highly successful operation at a modest 13 times earnings against stiff competition, mainly because Guinness appeared to offer just what the Spaniards needed.

Jonathan Goble, brewery analyst of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, concluded that Cruzcampo would be a good buy even if Guinness did not do anything with it. Guinness will not use Cruzcampo to solve its Spanish spirits marketing problems, but will instead try to build on Cruzcampo's outposts in other regions of Spain to create a more truly national operation.

Brian Baldock, head of Guinness Brewing, sees building a 7 per cent share of the Madrid market as an immediate objective. Selling more Guinness through Cruzcampo or importing the Spanish beer to hispanic areas of America are possibilities for the future.

The competition to buy Cruzcampo is, however, a pointer to what is likely to happen in Britain as the traditional brewing/public house combines dissolve. Those disappointed in Spain may turn elsewhere. Guinness may take an interest in a tie with Carlsberg, whose link with Elders is bound to be unbreakable.

If Bass and other big British brewers are not to become vulnerable, they will also eventually have to become international.

GRAHAM SEARJEANT
Financial Editor

Politics crosses C&W wires

TEMPUS

VIRTUALLY all the uncertainties that overhang Cable and Wireless, Britain's former colonial telecommunications group, are of a political nature.

Lord Sharp, C&W's former chairman and chief executive, has left Lord Young, his successor, a company in robust health, with exciting prospects.

The global market for telecommunications is growing at an astonishing pace. C&W is reaping the rewards with skill. Profits in the six months to end-September rose 25 per cent to £301 million, on sales 16 per cent ahead at £1.26 billion.

Adverse currency movements cause the expansion in sales to be understated. The underlying rise in revenues, measured in the currencies in which they were earned, was 23 per cent.

C&W's profit centres rest in providing local networks in former colonies such as Hong Kong and Caribbean states, and in international cables that link them with the rest of the world.

Early next year, C&W will complete its much-vaunted global digital highway of high-tech cables stretching from Japan and Hong Kong, via North America, to Europe.

At home, Mercury, C&W's challenger to British Telecom, is moving from dependency

on its parent to a phase of growth, producing trading profits of £50 million.

In the likely event that profits turn out a shade over £600 million for the year, and a 2p rise in the final takes total dividends to 12p, investors are paying almost 14 years earnings for a yield of 3.8 per cent. That is a 40 per cent premium to the market. For an ungilded company in an undoubted growth sector, that can be justified.

The potential downside deepens each day. The transfer of power in Hong Kong, the duopoly review in Britain, and the effects of recession and the political uncertainty on sterling are beyond the company's control.

Courtaulds

COURTAULDS' net earnings growth of 22 per cent in the six months ended September 30, complemented by a 10 per cent dividend increase to 3.4p a share, suggests that life as a specialist materials group is going to be most profitable.

Pre-tax profits amount to £87.1 million against £70.9 million, and the return on sales is up to 9.1 per cent (7 per cent) with further margin improvement to come. The market's enthusiasm for the new-look group was, however, checked by suggestions that the second half may not be as

buoyant as the first. The world economic picture remains uncertain, and Courtaulds remains hostage to dollar movements.

This led to a general, though modest, downgrading of year-end profit forecasts yesterday. The 36 per cent advance in operating profit was organically driven, since acquisition/disposals benefits were exactly offset by currency movements. The fibres and films division maintained last year's second-half momentum and demand in the chemicals division remains robust.

A year end pre-tax profit around the £182 million mark (£168.1 million), and a further advance to the £200 million area in 1991, put the shares at 318p on a rating of 9.4 and 8.5, respectively. These are below the market's average, and on an 18-month view neither is expensive. Buying on weakness is recommended.

RHM

INVESTORS who put their money into bread on the grounds that people still eat sandwiches in a recession will be sadder and wiser after reading the 1989-90 figures from RHM. But then RHM is not just a food play these days. The figures show that £12.4 million of the group's lost profits came on the property side.

Yet the food operations nonetheless underperformed, with the tendency for weather extremes to affect the public's eating habits a significant factor. And even the best informed investor could not have foreseen the effect on Mr Kipling of a glass contamination scare. That incident cost RHM £3.4 million, charged as an extraordinary item.

Defensive qualities also failed to protect the company from £17 million restructuring costs relating to the 1,200 redundancies made last year, though RHM claims a two year pay-back through cost savings.

But the longer term problem facing the group is the very size of its share of mature, competitive markets, leaving it little room for volume growth, despite its portfolio of premium brands.

Profits will grow from last year's low point of £133.2 million, but it will probably be two years rather than one before RHM gets fully back on track. Forecasts of £155 million to £160 million put the shares on a fairly demanding multiple of about nine times.

The rating reflects continuing hopes that 29 per cent shareholder Sunningdale will finally make a bid for the company. For the short to medium term there is no other reason to buy the shares.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Going but not forgotten

THE imminent demise of the overseas traders sector - due to be disbanded by the International Stock Exchange at the end of the year - will not, it seems, pass un lamented. For many of the analysts who have spent a large chunk of their careers following companies such as Lorrho, Inchcape, Harrisons & Crossfield and - dare it be said - Polly Peck, are planning a wake. Mike Smith, of Charterhouse Tilley, tells me that a memorial lunch will be held on December 7 at Jamie's, Gresham Street. Among his fellow mourners will be Bob Havell of Morgans, Bob Carpenter of Carr, Kitcher & Aitken, Geoff Ware of County NatWest, Paul Beaufre of James Capel, and Bob Morton of BZW. "We're also expecting John Olivier, who is now at Framlington, who followed the sector for years at Laurence Prust," says Smith. Remaining constituents will be allocated to other sectors, such as the new business services division. "Most of us will continue to follow them all," says Smith, "but it is the end of an era."

term in office. On Tuesday, IG was predicting that the prime minister would step down no earlier than August 24, 1991. Yesterday the date was changed to March 22, 1991 - and bidding was frantic.

Smoke screen

CITY people on their way to lunch yesterday were horrified to see clouds of smoke pouring from the top of the National Westminster Bank tower in Old Broad Street. They watched as fire engines raced by, sirens wailing, and firemen with axes and breathing equipment vanished into the lobby. But the panic - coming so soon after the short but spectacular blaze at BZW on Friday - was caused by a smoky generator, firing up on the roof of the 600 ft building. A public-spirited neighbour had telephoned the fire brigade - no doubt fearing the worst for the 2,000 employees who work in the 52-storey

structure. "We are very grateful for their concern," said a red-faced NatWest spokesman who admits that the oil-burning boiler - which had not been used for some months - had chugged into life with a burst of smoke and steam.

SAN FRANCISCO is not alone in its string of aptly named hairdressing salons. The list in London includes: Base Cuts Too, Blades, Cissors Palace, Hairwaves, The Head Gardener, and Mean Streaks. Best of all, a reader tells me, is the salon in St Petersburg, Florida, appropriately named ... British Hairways.

A likely tale

SALES talk, as any stockbroker will agree, can make all the difference when it comes to clinching a deal. Americans are better at it than most, according to two young fund managers on Invesco-MIM's North American desk, who hope to publish a book of some of the funniest expressions they have heard. "In a general market rise many a dog will shake its fleas and stand tall," is one contender, along with "You've got to dig deep in your shorts to find it." An ecstatic broker once told his client "We did a double-bogey on the fifty 50," while Greg Smith, chief strategist at Prudential Bache, was heard to complain of "that lonely salmon swimming against the current feeling." "Americans seem to say the first thing that comes into their mind," says Guy Mucklow of MIM, who is

drawing up a list of juicy snippets with Ian King, his colleague. They are keen to hear from anyone else with a story to tell.

A ROAD sign on the approaches to the Somerset village of Charlton Adam reads "Slow! Free-range children crossing."

Festive deal

BOB Payton, the American entrepreneur who owns the Chicago Pizza Pie Factory chain, has decided to celebrate Thanksgiving Day in style. For Payton, who introduced the deep dish pizza to Europe, today signs a deal to open his first restaurant in Turkey. It has been traditional for the Chicago Pizza Pie Factory to serve turkey pizza in its London branch on Thanksgiving, so there is perhaps some logic in the idea of serving pizza in Turkey. "It is one of those things which translates into all languages," says Payton, aged 46, who opened a branch in Madrid last month. Tonight, a charity premier party is to be held in the London branch on behalf of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Heroes film whose stars - as it happens - eat nothing but pepperoni pizza. Payton, meanwhile, will be celebrating the American holiday at Stapleford Park, Leicestershire, his grade I listed country house hotel, where he will join 100 British guests in a traditional meal of turkey and pumpkin pie.

JON ASHWORTH

Quality growth in a world market.

CABLE & WIRELESS INTERIM REPORT

£million (unaudited results)	6 months to 30 Sept 1989	6 months to 30 Sept 1990	% growth
Turnover	1,089	1,264	16%
Profit before taxation	241	301	25%
Attributable profit	150	161	7%
Earnings per share	14.4p	15.1p	5%
Dividend per share	3.1p	3.7p	19%

- Profit before tax has increased by 25% to £301m - an increase of £60m.
- UK and Europe trading profit almost doubled from £31m to £61m and now represents 21% of Group trading profit.
- Mercury's trading profit increased by 127% to £50m against a cumulative investment of £1.1 billion.
- Net gearing at 30 September only 3.6%.
- Interim dividend increased by 19% to 3.7 pence per share.

Cable and Wireless plc
THE WORLD TELEPHONE COMPANY

New Mercury House, 26 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4UQ.

Interim dividend of 3.7p payable 28 February 1991 to Shareholders on the Register at 20 December 1990. If you have any enquiries as an investor please call us on 071-315 4455. A copy of the Interim Report will be posted to Shareholders on 30 November 1990.



Changing fortunes

IG INDEX, the financial bookmaker, is taking bets on Mrs Thatcher's remaining

STOCK MARKET

Resilient pound helps shares

THE City was confounded by the resilience of equity and bond markets in the wake of the inconclusive Conservative leadership election result.

The absence of overseas sellers and a steady performance from the pound enabled share prices to recover from an early markdown and overnight setbacks in New York and Tokyo. But best gains were not held and the equity market spent an unsettled afternoon worried by speculation that Mrs Thatcher might step down and by another hesitant start to trading on Wall Street.

The FT-SE 100 index closed 11.1 points up at 2,126.3.

Hartstone, the hosiery group, rose 3p to 171p after a presentation for final managers arranged by Hore Govett. The broker has published a bullish note on the company, claiming the shares are undervalued. We should bear news today that Scottish Amicable has raised its stake from 4.4 per cent to 5.5 per cent.

having been more than 26 points higher at one stage. Dealers said stock shortages before the electricity privatisation and another firm performance by the FT-SE 100 December series on the futures market contributed to the advance. The gains were not reflected in turnover levels, with only 444 million shares traded.

The pound's resurgent action enabled government securities to close with gains of 2% at the longer end.

Tarmac, the construction and building materials group, was hit by several profit

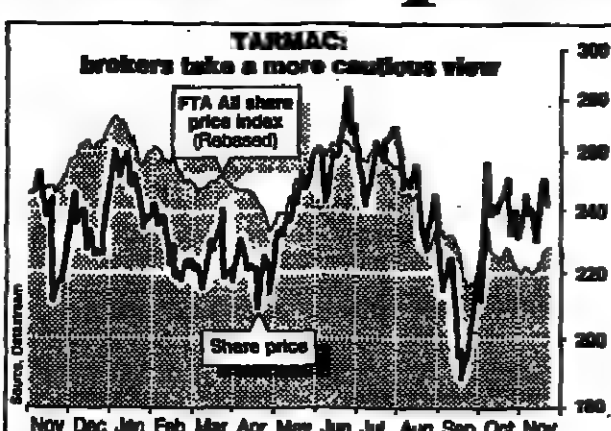
downgradings that left the price 9p lower at 241p. UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker, has cut its forecast for the current year from £225 million to £202 million and for next year by £40 million to £210 million.

Tarmac's broker, Cazenove, is also reckoned to have cut its estimate by £10 million to £205 million. At the halfway stage, the group reported a 36 per cent decline in profits to £97.8 million, blaming the downturn in the housing market.

WPP, Martin Sorrell's troubled advertising agency, clawed back some of this week's hefty falls with a rise of 13p to 128p.

Some of the water companies saw back after the pricing of the 12 electricity distribution companies was pitched at 240p a share. But the expected waver of selling by private sellers anxious to take up the power sell-off has failed to materialise. Dealers are now talking about revived support for the water companies before the dividend reporting season because of their attractive rating. There were gains for Anglian, 1p to 249p, Northumbria, 4p to 245p, Severn Trent, 6p to 219p, Southern, 8p to 223p, South West, 3p to 249p, Thames, 4p to 247p, Welsh, 3p to 263p, Wessex, 4p to 237p, while Yorkshire fell 4p to 245p. The water package jumped £52 to £2,425.

Cardbury Schweppes, the confectionery and soft drinks group, failed to recover an early fall, ending the session 1p lighter at 324p. Dealers



said the shares were marked lower in the wake of a profits warning by Nestlé, the Swiss group which owns Rowntree Macintosh, one of Cardbury's main rivals.

Rationalisation costs have made a dent in full-year figures at Rank's Horia McDougall, the food manufacturer. Pre-tax profits fell from £176.5 million to £133.2

million, leaving the share price 7p lower at 272p.

Tougher conditions in the insurance market and stock market volatility have taken their toll on BAT Industries. Nine-month figures show pre-tax profits sliding from £1 billion to £599 million. Patrick Sheehy, the chairman, said the group had been affected by a number of

special factors. But the dividend forecast enabled the price to recover an early fall and close 4p better at 561p.

Interim figures from Cable and Wireless were also at the bottom end of market expectations, with the shares shedding 10p at 413p.

The first set of figures from Courtlands since it was demerged this year, made impressive reading. Pre-tax profits were up from £70.9 million to £87.1 million.

Guinness, the drinks group, has confirmed its intention to pay £518 million for Cruzcampo, Spain's largest brewer with a 22 per cent market share.

Whitbread, the brewer, which this week paid Grand Metropolitan £115 million for a string of Berni restaurants, lifted pre-tax profits in the first six months from £128.5 million to £149.1 million.

Manpower, the Milwaukee employment agency, fell 4p to a low of 44p. Talks on a management buyout of its Blue Arrow and Brook Street employment agency businesses have been terminated. Bankers representing the managers had asked Mitchell Frazer & Shaw, the chairman of Manpower, to accept a lower price.

Goodland Group, the free-sheet newspaper publisher, rose another 5p to 55p. This week, John Madjeski, chairman of Hurst Publishing, bought 1.3 million shares. Reed International rallied 8p to 373p. Smith New Court, the broker, has been a seller and James Capel downgraded its profit forecast for the group this week.

MICHAEL CLARK

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A copy of this document which comprises listing particulars relating to Trio Investment Trust PLC ("the Company") required by the listing rules made under Section 142 of the Financial Services Act 1986, has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies for registration in accordance with Section 149 of that Act. Application will be made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for up to 8,000,000

Ordinary shares of 25p each and up to 1,600,000 Warrants in the Company to be admitted to the Official List. For details of when dealings are expected to commence you are referred to the paragraph headed "Applications, Dealings and Listings" in Part I of this document.

The Directors of the Company, whose names appear in the paragraph headed

"Directors, Secretary, Manager and Advisers" accept responsibility for the information contained in this document. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information in this document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.



(Incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act 1985. Registered number 2507527)

Offer for Subscription by **RAPHAEL ZORN HEMSLEY LIMITED** of up to 8,000,000 Ordinary shares of 25p each (with Warrants attached) at 50p per share payable in full on application

ORDINARY SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised
£22,000,000

in Ordinary shares of 25p

Proposed to be issued on the basis of subscription in full
£2,000,000

The Ordinary shares now being offered will rank in full for all dividends or other distributions declared, made or paid hereafter by the Company.

Following the Offer for Subscription and assuming subscription in full there will be 1,600,000 Warrants in issue each giving the right to subscribe for one Ordinary share at 55p.

INDEBTEDNESS

As at the date of this document, the Company has no loan capital (including term loans) outstanding or created but unissued, and no outstanding mortgages, charges or other borrowings or indebtedness in the nature of borrowings, including bank overdrafts and liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, finance leases, hire purchase commitments, guarantees or other contingent liabilities.

The Offer for Subscription has been underwritten as to 4,000,000 Ordinary shares (with Warrants attached) by Raphael Zorn Hemsley Limited.

The Subscription lists will open on 21st November, 1990 and may be closed at any time thereafter but in any event not later than 5th December, 1990. Each application must be for a minimum of 4,000 Ordinary shares (with Warrants attached) and thereafter in multiples of 1,000 Ordinary shares (with Warrants attached). The procedure for application is set out in the paragraph headed "Procedure for Application" in Part IV of this document.

KEY INFORMATION

The information set out below should be read in conjunction with the full text of this document, from which it is derived.

- The Company**
- Minimum number of Ordinary shares in issue following the Offer 4,000,000
 - Subscription price per Ordinary share 50p
 - On the basis of full subscription there will be 8,000,000 Ordinary shares in issue following the Offer, with an estimated net asset value (after expenses) per Ordinary share of 47.0p
 - For every five Ordinary shares subscribed, a shareholder will receive one Warrant giving the right to subscribe (in each year between 1991-1995 inclusive) for one Ordinary share at 55p
 - Minimum number of Warrants in issue following the Offer 800,000
 - Prospective gross dividend yield at the Subscription price 5.0%
 - Dividends are expected to be paid half-yearly with the first dividend in May 1991
 - Directors will propose a resolution at the fifth Annual General Meeting (and at every fifth subsequent Annual General Meeting) that the Company should be wound up and the assets realised for distribution to shareholders

Investment Policy and PEPs

- The Company is being formed to invest predominantly in quoted U.K. companies
- The Company intends to conduct its affairs so that it is eligible for approval by the Inland Revenue as an investment trust in respect of all accounting periods beginning on or after 6th April, 1991
- As over 50 per cent. of the Company's portfolio will consist of quoted U.K. equities, the Ordinary shares will qualify for inclusion in PEPs under existing legislation, thereby providing an opportunity for returns to be completely free of capital gains and income tax
- A higher rate taxpayer investing £6,000 in Ordinary shares at 50p each and holding them in a PEP would (at the prospective gross dividend yield) earn income of £300 (before deduction of management charges) in the first year as opposed to income (after deduction of tax at 40 per cent.) of £180 if the shares were not held in a PEP

The Offer

- 8,000,000 Ordinary shares (with Warrants attached) at the Subscription price of 50p per Ordinary share.
- Raphael Zorn Hemsley has underwritten 4,000,000 Ordinary shares (with Warrants attached) comprised in the Offer at the Subscription price.

Future Expansion

- The Company will consider an enlargement of its capital base in the very near future. The preferred route would be by way of a Rights Issue of new Ordinary shares.

DIRECTORS, SECRETARY, MANAGER AND ADVISERS

Directors (non-executive)

The Lord Tryon
of Ogbury House, Great Durnford,
Wiltshire SP4 6AZ
Martin Leslie Fielding
of Sovereign House, Tichborne Street,
Brighton BN1 1UR
John Stuart Lewis
of 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY

Stephen John Lewis
of 17 Solar Court, Etchingham Park Road,
London N3 2DZ
Christopher Hodgson Moore
of 10 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2N 2DP
John David Passey
of 102 Gilbert House, Barbican, London EC2Y 8BD

Advisers

Secretary and Registered Office
John Stuart Lewis FCIS
50 Stratton Street
London W1X 5FL

Investment Manager
FAMILY EQUITY PLAN LIMITED
Sovereign House
Tichborne Street
Brighton BN1 1UR

Financial Adviser
CITY WALL SECURITIES LIMITED
65 London Wall
London EC2M 5TU

Solicitors to the Company
NABARRO NATHANSON
50 Stratton Street
London W1X 5FL

Reporting Accountants & Auditors
ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO.
Chartered Accountants
1 Surrey Street
London WC2R 2PS

Registrars & Transfer Agents
STENTIFORD CLOSE REGISTRARS LIMITED
Broseley House
Newlands Drive
Witham
Essex EM8 2UL

Stockbrokers & Receiving Agents
RAPHAEL ZORN HEMSLEY LIMITED
10 Throgmorton Avenue
London EC2N 2DP

**Solicitors to the Stockbrokers
& Receiving Agents**
LOVELL WHITE DURRANT
65 Holborn Viaduct
London EC1A 2DY

Bankers
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK PLC
41 Lothbury
London EC2P 2BP

DEFINITIONS

In this document, the following expressions shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the following meanings:

"Company"	Trio Investment Trust PLC
"Directors"	the directors of the Company
"Ordinary shares"	the ordinary shares of 25p each in the Company
"IMRO"	Investment Management Regulatory Organisation Limited
"Offer"	the offer for subscription of up to 8,000,000 Ordinary shares (with Warrants attached) contained in this document
"Investment Manager" or "FEP"	Family Equity Plan Limited, a subsidiary of Family Guarantee Corporation Limited and a member of IMRO
"Listing Particulars"	these listing particulars relating to the Company
"Subscription price"	50p per Ordinary share
"Articles of Association" and "Articles"	the articles of association of the Company
"Memorandum of Association"	the memorandum of association of the Company
"PEP"	a Personal Equity Plan established pursuant to the Personal Equity Plan Regulations 1989 (as amended)
"Raphael Zorn Hemsley"	Raphael Zorn Hemsley Limited, a member of The Stock Exchange and of The Securities Association
"City Wall"	City Wall Securities Limited, a member of The Stock Exchange and of The Securities Association
"The Stock Exchange"	The International Stock Exchange of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland Limited
"Warrant"	a warrant entitling the holder to subscribe for one Ordinary share at 55p subject to the terms and conditions thereof

PART I

INTRODUCTION

The Company is a new investment trust, which has been formed to provide investors with the opportunity to participate in the growth potential of a diversified portfolio of investments predominantly in leading U.K. companies.

The Directors will be responsible for the determination of the Company's investment policy and overall supervision of the Company's investments. The Company has appointed FEP, a wholly owned subsidiary of Family Guarantees Corporation Limited, to provide investment management services to the Company's investors.

The Directors intend to conduct the affairs of the Company so that for the purposes of U.K. taxation it will be eligible for approval as an investment trust within the provisions of Section 842 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 in respect of all accounting periods beginning on or after 6th April, 1991.

As over 50 per cent. of the Company's portfolio will consist of quoted U.K. equities, the Ordinary shares will qualify for inclusion in PEPs under existing legislation thereby affording an opportunity of returns completely free of capital gains and income tax.

The equity and financial markets have been under pressure and have shown considerable volatility but for investors able to take a long term view, such factors may present good buying opportunities in the short and medium term.

INVESTMENT POLICY

The Company's principal investment objective is to provide capital appreciation for investors within the medium to long term is not less than that provided by the FT-SE 100 Index, by investing predominantly in leading listed U.K. companies. Consistent with this policy, the Directors believe that an annual gross dividend yield of 5 per cent. can be achieved and that the investment policy will lead to progressive growth of dividend income on the portfolio.

The specific guidelines that have been established are as follows:—

- at least 75 per cent. of the portfolio to be invested in FT-SE 100 shares;
- not more than 25 per cent. of the portfolio to be invested in selected quoted companies whose total assets are less than £250 million. Such companies have traditionally out-performed larger companies in capital growth but due to lower marketability and wide variation in individual performance this section of the portfolio will be limited. Where specific opportunities arise the Directors reserve the right, in consultation with the Investment Manager, to invest a limited proportion of the Company's assets in smaller companies and/or unquoted securities.

The Company intends to apply the net proceeds of the Offer (estimated at £3,150,000 assuming full subscription) to acquire a portfolio of Ordinary shares made prior to 5th April, 1991 in investments in accordance with the investment policy stated above so that by the end of its first accounting period, on 5th April, 1991, the Company will have invested substantially the whole of its assets. All uninvested balances of the Company's funds will be held on deposit.

In selecting investments, the emphasis will be placed on company, rather than sector, and in particular, companies which the Directors believe have the potential for above average earnings growth. Such companies should enhance the prospects of capital appreciation and dividend growth. In addition, investments may be made in companies which the Directors believe to have attractive prospects but which are temporarily out of favour.

The Directors intend that, for accounting periods commencing on or after 6th April, 1991, the Company will be an investment company within the meaning of Section 842 of the Companies Act 1985 and that its affairs will be conducted in such a manner as to satisfy the requirements of The Stock Exchange for an investment trust and the conditions for approval as an investment trust set out in Section 842 of the Companies Act 1985 and that its affairs will be conducted in such a manner as to satisfy the requirements of The Stock Exchange for an investment trust.

Except with the prior consent of shareholders the Directors do not intend to exercise their borrowing powers other than for short term borrowings in order to facilitate market dealings and other transactions.

The investment policy set out in this Section will, in accordance with the requirements of The Stock Exchange, be revised at least three years from the date of this document.

The investment policy is also designed to ensure that the Ordinary shares will be qualifying investments for the purposes of the Personal Equity Plan Regulations 1988 (as amended) and may, in accordance with the present regulations, be held in a PEP.

DIVIDEND POLICY

The Company's first preliminary results are expected to be announced in May 1991 together with a final dividend for the financial year ending 5th April, 1991. The payment of this dividend will be made following approval of the dividend at the Company's first Annual General Meeting intended to be held in late May or early June 1991. Thereafter it is expected that an interim dividend will be paid in each year and that the Company's first dividend will be announced in May and paid following approval at the Annual General Meeting in each year.

It is expected that the dividend payable in respect of the financial year ending 5th April, 1991 will be consistent with a gross annual rate of 5 per cent. reflecting current short term interest rates on uninvested balances being held on deposit. Thereafter it is anticipated that the aggregate dividend payable on each Ordinary share for the financial year to 5th April, 1992 will be 1.575p net per share. This is equivalent to 2.5p gross per share at the current basic rate of income tax of 25 per cent. This is consistent with prospective income yields currently obtainable on investments similar to those which the Company intends to make.

The income of the Company will be derived wholly or mainly from shares and other securities. It is the Directors' intention that more than 15 per cent. of the income derived from shares and securities will be realised by the Company. Dividends will be paid only to the extent that they are covered by income received from underlying investments including cash deposits. The share of profits of any associated companies are unavailable for this purpose unless and until distributed to the Company. The distribution of dividends of surplus arising from the realisation of investments is prohibited by the Articles of Association.

INVESTMENT MANAGER

FEP is a member of IMRO and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Family Guarantees Corporation Limited, a company limited by guarantee.

FEP manages investments linked to the PEPs that it offers to the public. These principally comprise units in the Family Trust, an authorised U.K. unit trust that was launched on 1st March, 1990 with similar objectives to those of the Company. According to the "Money Management" Magazine for November 1990 the Family Trust was the top performing U.K. growth unit trust out of 204 funds in its sector over the six months ended 1st October, 1990.

DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY

The following are the Directors of the Company:

Lord Tryon, Chairman, aged 50
Lord Tryon began his career in merchant banking with Lazard Frères & Co Limited in 1961 and remained with them until 1983, having served as a director from 1976 to 1980. He then joined the investment trust department of Lazard Frères & Co, becoming a director of English and Scottish Investors PLC in 1975. He served as chairman of that company from 1979 to 1989 and remains a director. He became a director of both Romney Trust PLC and Redburn Investment Trust PLC in 1980 and a director of Lazard Select Investment Trust PLC following the latter's acquisition of Romney and Redburn. He is also a director of a number of substantial offshore investment companies.

Martin Fielding, aged 34
Martin Fielding is a Chartered Accountant and is the Chief Executive of FEP. Prior to this he worked for Deloitte, Touche, Peters & Deloitte, a new part of Deloitte & Lybrand Deloitte, most recently in their corporate finance division. He has lectured extensively on collective investment schemes. He is also a director of a number of private companies.

Stephen Lewis, aged 42
Stephen Lewis became a Partner of Phillips & Drew in 1980 and Director of Economic Research in 1985, when the firm incorporated and was taken over by Union Bank of Switzerland. In 1988 he left UBS-Phillips & Drew to establish his own company, Fifth Horizons Partners Limited, which publishes newsletters and provides consultancy services on global financial markets and securities. He has broadcast on television and radio as a commentator on financial and economic affairs.

Stuart Lewis, aged 46
Stuart Lewis is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators and the Managing Director of Private Funds Limited, a limited member of The Stock Exchange, specialising in private clients. He has extensive stockbroking experience with Cazenove & Co, as a Partner of Fielding Newton-Smith & Co and most recently as a First Vice-President of Dresdner Bank Limited. He is chairman of the Investment Trust Association and a director of a number of other companies including several offshore funds.

Christopher Moore, aged 50
Christopher Moore has worked in stockbroking since 1959, following a career in industry. He has specialised in the investment trust sector of the market and has worked closely with the development of a number of private companies seeking listing. He is a non-executive director of several private companies. He is a Director of Raphael Trust Hemley and was previously a partner of Raphael, Zorn prior to its merger with Hemley & Co Securities Limited.

John Passy, aged 58
John Passy, M.A., is the Managing Director of City Wall which he founded in 1988, and which specialises in corporate finance. He left a career in international business in 1972 and has since been involved with fund management and stockbroking. He has extensive experience in the management of small and medium companies and has assisted many companies in their flotation.

WARRANTS

Warrants will be issued with the Ordinary shares in the ratio of one Warrant for every five Ordinary shares.

Each Warrant will be exercisable in the 42 day period immediately following the publication of the Company's report and accounts in each of the years 1991, 1992 and 1993 and will entitle holders to subscribe for one Ordinary share at 55p subject to the terms and conditions of the Warrants set out under "Details of Warrants" in Part III.

DURATION OF THE COMPANY

The Articles of Association provide that the Directors are obliged to propose a resolution providing for the Company to be wound up ("a liquidation resolution") at the Annual General Meeting to be held in 1995 and every five years thereafter. The Articles of Association provide, in effect, that a liquidation resolution will be passed upon the vote of a simple majority of those attending and voting at the meeting even if the Company is to be wound up for the purposes of distribution to the shareholders.

RISK FACTORS

Prospective investors should be aware that the price of investment trust shares, in common with other shares, together with the income derived from them, can fluctuate. In addition, there is no guarantee that in any arbitrary time period, particularly in the short term, that the FT-SE 100 Index will show any capital growth nor that the Company's portfolio will achieve appreciation which in terms of capital growth equals that of the FT-SE 100 Index. The market price of shares in investment trusts may not reflect fully their underlying net asset values.

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

FEP has been appointed to provide investment management services to the

Company with effect from the date upon which the Ordinary shares and Warrants are admitted to the Official List of The Stock Exchange pursuant to an agreement, details of which are contained in paragraph 5(b) of Part IV.

TAXATION

General
The following general information in relation to taxation is based on the law and practice presently in force in the United Kingdom.

The Company
It is the intention of the Directors to conduct the affairs of the Company so that it satisfies the conditions for approval as an investment trust set out in Section 842 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. Such approval is granted retrospectively for each accounting period. The Company will be exempt from corporation tax on its chargeable gains in respect of each accounting period for which approval is granted.

The income of the Company (other than income from shares of United Kingdom companies), after relief for allowable expenses and loan interest, will be subject to United Kingdom corporation tax. Subject to certain restrictions, any advance corporation tax payable by the Company may be set off against tax liability to corporation tax.

It is intended that the accounts of the Company will be made up to 5th April in each year. In the first financial year from incorporation until 5th April, 1991, the Company will not qualify as an investment trust for tax purposes and the whole of the portfolio will be managed during this period so as to minimise the realisation of capital gains.

Capital Gains Tax
With the exception of those shareholders whose investments in the Company are covered by the PEP provisions, the disposal of Ordinary shares or Warrants in the Company may be liable to United Kingdom tax on capital gains. The Directors have been advised that for the purposes of taxation of capital gains in the United Kingdom, in the event of a winding up of the Company, the receipt of distributions in the liquidation of the Company by the holders of the Ordinary shares or Warrants would normally give rise to a disposal or part disposal of their holdings in the Company.

As the Warrants will be listed they will not be "vesting assets" for the purposes of the capital gains tax legislation. In the event of a disposal of Ordinary shares or Warrants, the acquisition cost would be allowed in full in computing any gain or loss. The exercise by a holder of a Warrant of its right to subscribe for Ordinary shares will not, however, constitute a disposal of the Warrant and for the purposes of calculating any capital gain or loss on the disposal of the Warrant, the acquisition cost of the Warrant as described above will be added to the Subscription price payable on the exercise of these rights in computing the acquisition cost of the shares disposed of.

Any potential investor (including an investor not resident in the United Kingdom) who is in any doubt about the tax consequences of his acquiring, holding or disposing of Ordinary shares, or Warrants should seek advice from his own professional adviser.

PERSONAL EQUITY PLANS

The investment policy of the Company will enable the Ordinary shares to be eligible as "qualifying investments" under the Personal Equity Plan Regulations 1988 (as amended by the Personal Equity Plan (Amendment) Regulations 1990). On this basis an individual investor can transfer Ordinary shares up to the value of £6,000 acquired pursuant to the Offer into a PEP. Alternatively, the manager of a PEP may apply for Ordinary shares up to the value of £3,000 for each PEP. Any transfer of Ordinary shares acquired pursuant to the Offer into a PEP must take place within a period of 42 days following the announcement of the allotment of Ordinary shares. It is expected that the Directors will allot the Ordinary shares on 7th December, 1990 and therefore, any such transfer into a PEP must occur no later than 18th January, 1991 so that a PEP manager can thereafter become the registered holder of the Ordinary shares. Where a private investor wishes to establish a new PEP into which Ordinary shares are to be transferred, any mandatory cooling off period must expire within the 42 day period.

Individuals intending to transfer Ordinary shares into a PEP must apply for the shares in a single name only. Shares held in joint names cannot be transferred into a PEP.

Securities offered by way of rights may also be accepted by an individual and held under a PEP under certain circumstances.

Private investors intending to transfer Ordinary shares into a PEP should obtain advice from their personal financial adviser authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986.

FUTURE EXPANSION

The Directors will consider expanding the Company's capital base in the very near future. The preference of the Directors would be to propose a Rights Issue of new Ordinary shares if it appears to them that such an issue might prove attractive to a significant number of shareholders and if, in the opinion of the Directors, such an issue would be in the best interests of the Company.

APPLICATIONS, DEALINGS AND LISTINGS

Terms and conditions of application and an Application Form can be found at the end of this document. Applications may be for a minimum of 1,000 Ordinary shares and thereafter in multiples of 1,000 Ordinary shares.

The Subscription list will open at 10.00 a.m. on 21st November, 1990 and will close on such date thereafter as the Offer is fully subscribed or, at 10.00 a.m. on 5th December, 1990, whichever is the sooner.

It is expected that the basis of allotment will be announced on 7th December, 1990. It is intended that Renounceable Letters of Allotment will be posted to successful applicants at their risk by not later than 11th December, 1990. The Renounceable Letters of Allotment will set out the number of Ordinary shares and Warrants provisionally allotted and the procedure to be followed if an applicant wishes to renounce all or part of his entitlement in favour of a third party. Applicants wishing to renounce their allotments should return the Renounceable Letters of Allotment to Raphael Zorn Hemley Limited, 10 Thompson Avenue, London EC2N 2DP by no later than 3.00 p.m. on 18th January, 1991.

It is expected that dealings will commence separately in Ordinary shares and Warrants by no later than 12th December, 1990.

PART II

Arthur Andersen & Co.
Chartered Accountants

1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2PS
Telephone: 071-438 3000 Telex: 071-438 3291
Teletext: 071-431 1133

20th November, 1990

The Directors
Trio Investment Trust PLC
40 Strand, London WC2N 2DP
London W1X 9FL

The Directors
Trio Investment Trust PLC
40 Strand, London WC2N 2DP
London EC2N 2DP

Dear Sirs,
Trio Investment Trust PLC (the "Company") was incorporated on 1st June, 1990 as a public limited company and changed its name to Trinity Investment Trust PLC on 15th November, 1990 and to Trio Investment Trust PLC on 16th November, 1990. The Company has not yet commenced business. A certificate under Section 117 of the Companies Act 1985 enabling the Company to commence trade was issued on 15th November, 1990. No accounts have been made up in respect of any period since incorporation. No transactions have occurred since incorporation other than the allotment of ordinary and redeemable shares disclosed under Part IV, paragraph 2 and the entry into the material contracts referred to in Part IV, paragraph 5 of the listing particulars to be dated 21st November, 1990. No dividends have been declared or paid since the date of incorporation.

Yours faithfully,

Arthur Andersen & Co.
Chartered Accountants

Offices in London Birmingham Bristol Cambridge Edinburgh Glasgow Leeds Manchester Nottingham Reading St Helier
Authorised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales to carry on investment business.

Details of partners is available at 1 Surrey Street London WC2R 2PS (principal place of business).

Associated with Arthur Andersen & Co. are: Argentina Australia Bahrain Belgium Bermuda Brazil Canada Chile Colombia Denmark Ecuador Egypt Finland France Germany Greece Guatemala Hong Kong India Indonesia Ireland Italy Ivory Coast Japan Jordan Kuwait Luxembourg Malaysia Mexico The Netherlands New Zealand Nicaragua Nigeria Norway Oman Peru Philippines Poland Portugal Puerto Rico Saudi Arabia Singapore South Africa Spain Sweden Switzerland Taiwan Thailand Turkey U.A.E. U.S.A. U.S.S.R. Venezuela.

PART III

DETAILS OF WARRANTS

The Warrants were created by an instrument of the Company dated 20th November, 1990. The terms and conditions attaching to the Warrants are as follows:

1. **Subscription Rights**
(a) A registered holder for the time being of a Warrant ("Holder") shall have the right to subscribe for one Ordinary share of 25p in the Company ("Ordinary share") at the price of 55p per Ordinary share ("Subscription Price") payable in full on subscription during each 42 day period, being the 42 day period immediately following the publication of the Company's report and accounts in respect of each of the financial years ending in 1991, 1992 and 1993.

The number of Ordinary shares to which each Warrant relates and the Subscription Price will be subject to adjustment as provided in paragraph 2. The Warrants registered in a Holder's name will be evidenced by a Warrant Certificate issued by the Company ("Warrant Certificate").

- (b) The rights to subscribe pursuant to Warrants ("Subscription Rights") will not be exercisable in respect of a fraction of an Ordinary share nor in respect of Warrants which have lapsed.
- (c) Not earlier than eight weeks nor later than four weeks before each Subscription Period the Company shall give notice in writing to the Holders reminding them of their Subscription Rights.

(d) In order to exercise the Subscription Rights in whole or in part a Holder must lodge the Warrant Certificate, being completed and signed by the Holder, at the office of the Registrars for the time being of the Company, to be received on or within the relevant Subscription Period, accompanied by a remittance for the aggregate Subscription Price for the new Ordinary shares. Once lodged, an exercise notice shall be irrevocable save with the consent of the board of directors of the Company ("Directors"). Compliance must also be made with any statutory requirements for the time being applicable. Warrants in respect of which Subscription Rights have been exercised will be cancelled.

(e) Ordinary shares issued pursuant to the exercise of Subscription Rights will be allotted not later than 14 days after the end of the relevant Subscription Period. Certificates in respect of such Ordinary shares will be despatched (at the risk of the persons entitled thereto) not later than 28 days after the end of the relevant Subscription Period to the persons in whose name the Warrants in respect of which Subscription Rights are exercised are registered as the date of the Subscription Period is given by the Company in accordance

with sub-paragraph (c) of this paragraph 1 or to such other person as may be named in the form of documentation available for the purpose from the Registrars for the time being of the Company (and, if more than one, to any one of them, which shall be sufficient dispatch for all). In the event of an exercise of a Holder's Subscription Rights exercised in a Warrant Certificate, the Company shall at the same time issue a fresh Warrant Certificate in the name of the Holder for any balance of his Subscription Rights remaining unexercised.

(f) The Ordinary shares allotted pursuant to the exercise of Subscription Rights will not rank for any dividends or other distributions in respect of the financial year ended immediately prior to the Subscription Period during which the Subscription Rights are exercised or for any dividends or other distributions for which the record date is a date prior to the relevant Subscription Period, but they shall rank in full for all dividends and (save insofar as an adjustment thereof pursuant to paragraph 2) shall have already been made) other distributions declared, made or paid after the relevant Subscription Period and part pass in all other respects with the Company's shares in respect of such dividends.

(g) It is the intention of the Company to apply to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the new Ordinary shares allotted pursuant to any exercise of Subscription Rights to be admitted to the Official List and the Company will use all reasonable endeavours to obtain the grant of listing for such new Ordinary shares not later than 14 days after the end of the Subscription Period.

(h) If prior to the final Subscription Period Subscription Rights shall have been exercised and/or released in respect of 75 per cent. or more of the new Ordinary shares to which such rights relate or released, the Company shall be entitled to give the remaining Subscription Rights written notice, one calendar month of the date of the end of the final Subscription Period, stating:

- (i) the date of an additional Subscription Period (being a period of 42 days commencing on or within 40 days following the date of such notice); and
- (ii) the date on which a Trustee will be appointed pursuant to this paragraph, which shall be after such additional Subscription Period.

Holder shall be entitled to exercise Subscription Rights during such additional Subscription Period in the same manner as during any other Subscription Period, but the Company shall not be obliged to issue or allot pursuant to paragraph 1(c) in respect thereof. The Company shall appoint a Trustee with effect from the date stated in such notice who, provided that in his opinion the net proceeds of sale after deduction of all costs and expenses incurred by him will exceed the cost of subscription, shall within 14 days following that date exercise such Subscription Rights as have not been exercised on the terms on which the same could have been exercised during the said additional Subscription Period (subject to any adjustment pursuant to paragraph 2) on behalf of the Holders and sell in the market the new Ordinary shares acquired on such subscription or accept any offer available to Holders for the purchase of such shares. The Trustee shall make the new Ordinary shares less such subscription costs and such other costs and expenses to the persons entitled thereto at the risk of such persons as soon as practicable after such sale, provided that entitlements of less than £2.50 will be retained for the benefit of the Company.

(i) Within seven days following the end of the final Subscription Period the Company will appoint a Trustee who, provided that in his opinion the net proceeds of sale after deduction of all costs and expenses incurred by him will exceed the cost of subscription, shall within 14 days following that date exercise such Subscription Rights as have not been exercised on the terms on which the same could have been exercised prior to the end of the final Subscription Period (subject to any adjustment pursuant to paragraph 2) on behalf of the Holders and sell in the market the new Ordinary shares acquired on such subscription. The Trustee shall distribute pro rata the proceeds less such subscription costs and such other costs and expenses to the persons entitled thereto at the risk of such persons within two calendar months of the end of the said Subscription Period. The Trustee shall retain entitlements of less than £2.50 shall be retained for the benefit of the Company. If the Trustee shall not so determine and his decision in respect thereof shall be final and binding on all Holders, the outstanding Warrants will lapse at the end of the period of 14 days following the end of the final Subscription Period.

2. Adjustment of Subscription Rights

(a) Forthwith upon:

- (i) any allotment of fully paid Ordinary shares by way of capitalisation of profits or reserves to holders of the Ordinary shares on the register on a date (or by reference to a record date) on or before 14 days after the end of the final Subscription Period; or
- (ii) any sub-division or consolidation of the Ordinary shares on or before a date (or by reference to a record date) on or before 14 days after the end of the final Subscription Period;

the aggregate number and/or nominal value of Ordinary shares to be subscribed on or after subsequent exercise of Subscription Rights will be increased or, as the case may be, reduced in due proportion (fractions being ignored) and the Subscription Price will be adjusted accordingly as to maintain the same cost of exercising the Subscription Rights of each Holder with effect from the record date for such capitalisation, sub-division or consolidation. On any such capitalisation, sub-division or consolidation the auditors for the time being of the Company ("Auditors") shall report upon the appropriate adjustments to be made to the number of Ordinary shares to be subscribed on or after subsequent exercise of Subscription Rights and to the Subscription Price to which each Holder giving details of the adjustment as reported upon by the Auditors and to which each Holder is entitled in consequence of such adjustment, fractional entitlements being ignored.

(b) If at any time, prior to the date 14 days after the end of the final Subscription Period:

- (i) the Company makes any offer or invitation (whether by rights issue or otherwise) to the holders of Ordinary shares; or
- (ii) any offer or invitation (not being an offer to which paragraph 3(d) applies) is made which has the effect of increasing the number of Ordinary shares to which the Company is entitled to issue or allot on the same terms as the offer or invitation is made to such Holders as if their Subscription Rights had been exercised and had been exercised on the day immediately preceding the record date of such offer or invitation on the terms (subject to any adjustment pursuant to paragraph 2(a)) on which the same could have been exercised prior to the end of the final Subscription Period;

PROVIDED THAT if the Directors so resolve in the case of any such offer or invitation made by the Company, the Company shall not be required to proceed with the issue or invitation made to the Holders but the Subscription Price and/or the Subscription Rights shall be adjusted:

- (i) in the case of no offer of new Ordinary shares for subscription by way of rights at a price less than the market price at the date of announcement of the terms of the offer, by multiplying the Subscription Price in force immediately before the date of announcement by a fraction of which the numerator is the number of Ordinary shares in issue on the date of such announcement plus the number of Ordinary shares which the amount payable for the total number of new Ordinary shares comprised in the offer of the new Ordinary shares would amount to at such market price and the denominator is the number of Ordinary shares in issue on the date of such announcement plus the aggregate number of Ordinary shares offered for subscription; and by dividing the number of Ordinary shares to be subscribed on any future exercise of the Subscription Rights by the same fraction;

(ii) in any other case, in such manner (if at all) as the Auditors consider to be appropriate.

Any such adjustments shall become effective as at the record date for the offer or invitation. For the purposes of the provision, "market price" shall mean the average of the closing market quotations as reflected from the Daily Official List of The Stock Exchange for an Ordinary share for the 3 consecutive stock exchange dealing days ending on the stock exchange dealing day immediately preceding the day on which the market price is to be determined. The Company shall not be obliged to make any such adjustments made pursuant to this sub-paragraph (b), and shall at the same time send to each Holder a Warrant Certificate in respect of any additional Warrants to which that Holder is entitled in consequence of such adjustment, fractional entitlements being ignored.

(c) If at any time an offer is made to all Ordinary shareholders of the Company (or all such holders other than the offeror and/or any company controlled by the offeror and/or persons acting in concert with the offeror within the meaning of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers as published from time to time) to acquire the whole or any part of the Company's shares on the same terms as the offer or invitation is made to such Holders as if their Subscription Rights had been exercised and had been exercised on the day immediately preceding the record date of such offer or invitation on the terms (subject to any adjustment pursuant to paragraph 2(a)) on which the same could have been exercised prior to the end of the final Subscription Period;

PROVIDED THAT if the Directors so resolve in the case of any such offer or invitation made by the Company, the Company shall not be required to proceed with the issue or invitation made to the Holders but the Subscription Price and/or the Subscription Rights shall be adjusted:

- (i) in the case of no offer of new Ordinary shares for subscription by way of rights at a price less than the market price at the date of announcement of the terms of the offer, by multiplying the Subscription Price in force immediately before the date of announcement by a fraction of which the numerator is the number of Ordinary shares in issue on the date of such announcement plus the number of Ordinary shares which the amount payable for the total number of new Ordinary shares comprised in the offer of the new Ordinary shares would amount to at such market price and the denominator is the number of Ordinary shares in issue on the date of such announcement plus the aggregate number of Ordinary shares offered for subscription; and by dividing the number of Ordinary shares to be subscribed on any future exercise of the Subscription Rights by the same fraction;

(ii) in any other case, in such manner (if at all) as the Auditors consider to be appropriate.

Any such adjustments shall become effective as at the record date for the offer or invitation. For the purposes of the provision, "market price" shall mean the average of the closing market quotations as reflected from the Daily Official List of The Stock Exchange for an Ordinary share for the 3 consecutive stock exchange dealing days ending on the stock exchange dealing day immediately preceding the day on which the market price is to be determined. The Company shall not be obliged to make any such adjustments made pursuant to this sub-paragraph (c), and shall at the same time send to each Holder a Warrant Certificate in respect of any additional Warrants to which that Holder is entitled in consequence of such adjustment, fractional entitlements being ignored.

(d) If an order is made or an effective resolution is passed for winding up the Company (except for the purposes of reconstruction, amalgamation or

unification on terms sanctioned by an extraordinary resolution of the Holders) the provisions of paragraph 2(a) shall apply and the Company shall give notice to each Holder within 7 days of any adjustment made pursuant to this sub-paragraph (d), if appropriate, despatch Warrant Certificates in the name of the Holder to whom the adjustment relates, and a scheme of arrangement under the Companies Act 1985 and 1989 providing for the acquisition by any person of the whole or any part of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company shall be deemed to be the making of an offer for the purpose of this sub-paragraph (c).

(e) If an order is made or an effective resolution is passed for winding up the Company (except for the purposes of reconstruction, amalgamation or unification on terms sanctioned by an extraordinary resolution of the Holders) the provisions of paragraph 2(a) shall apply and the Company shall give notice to each Holder within 7 days of any adjustment made pursuant to this sub-paragraph (e), if appropriate, despatch Warrant Certificates in the name of the Holder to whom the adjustment relates, and a scheme of arrangement under the Companies Act 1985 and 1989 providing for the acquisition by any person of the whole or any part of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company shall be deemed to be the making of an offer for the purpose of this sub-paragraph (c).

(f) In any way modify the rights attached to its existing Ordinary shares as a class or create any new class of equity share capital, except for shares which carry as compared with the existing Ordinary shares, no greater rights as regards voting, dividend or capital (not including human shares) or restrict the right of the Company to increase, consolidate, sub-divide or reduce its share capital;

(g) issue any Ordinary shares entitled as fully paid by way of capitalisation of profits or reserves or otherwise any such offer as is referred to in paragraph 2(b) if at a result the Company would be obliged to issue Ordinary shares as a discount to nominal value;

(h) reduce its share capital or any uncalled or unpaid liability in respect of any of its share capital or except as authorised by the Companies Act 1985 and 1989 any share premium reserve or capital redemption reserve;

(i) make any distribution of capital profits or capital reserves (including all surpluses and accretions required to be credited to capital reserve

by the Articles of Association) except by means of a capitalisation issue in the form of fully paid Ordinary shares, or by the securities by way of capitalisation of profits or reserves (including share premium capitalisation of profits or reserves) issued to the holders of its account except fully paid Ordinary shares provided for in paragraph 2(b) or make any such offer or invitation as is referred to in paragraph 2(b) or by reference to a record date falling within the period of eight weeks or by reference to any Subscription Period except by extending to Holders any such offer as may be made by a third party;

(vi) around the provision of its Articles of Association to permit any distribution of capital profits or capital reserves to be made as a discount provided for;

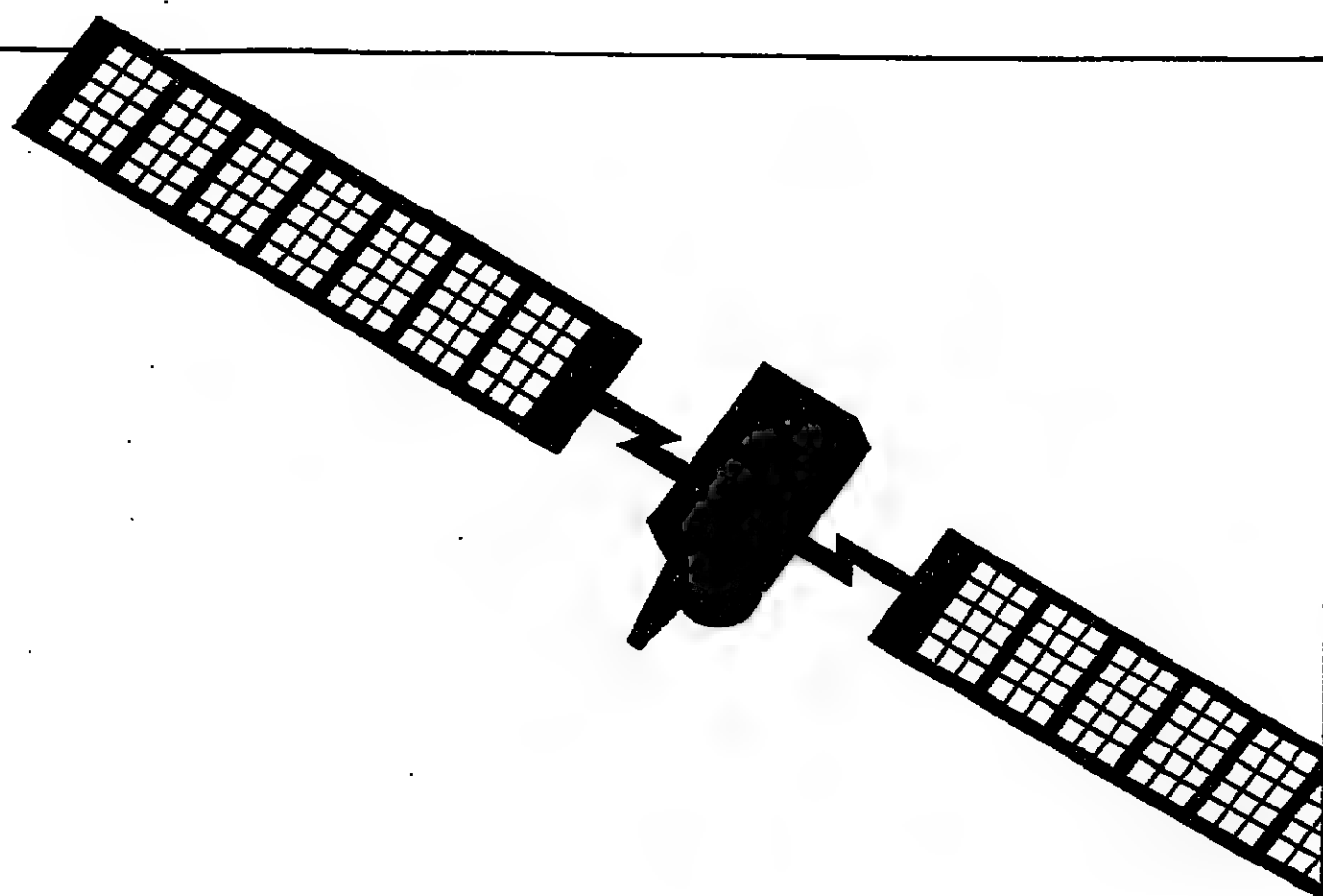
(vii) make any allotment of fully paid Ordinary shares or by way of capitalisation of profits or reserves or otherwise any such offer as is referred to in paragraph 2(b) if at a result the Company would be obliged to issue Ordinary shares as a discount to nominal value;

(viii) reduce its share capital or any uncalled or unpaid liability in respect of any of its share capital or except as authorised by the Companies Act 1985 and 1989 any share premium reserve or capital redemption reserve;

(ix) make any distribution of capital profits or capital reserves (including all surpluses and accretions required to be credited to capital reserve

by the Articles of Association) except by means of a capitalisation issue in the form of fully paid Ordinary shares, or by the securities by way of capitalisation of profits or reserves (

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The prices in this section refer to Tuesday's trading

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Exchange Index compared with 1985 was down at 84.0 (day's range 83.8-84.0).					OTHER STERLING RATES	
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES						
Market rates for November 21						
	Range	Close	1 month	3 months		
New York	1,975.7-1,971.0	1,989.1-1,990.0	1.00-0.99p	8.67-8.68p	Argentina austr*	1,028.1-5,025.4
London	2,464.2-2,464.6	2,472.1-2,471.0	0.23-0.21p	0.03-0.02p	Australia aust	1,205.1-2,570.6
Canada	8,270.3-8,284.7	8,279.7-8,283.8	11c-11p	8c-83p	Bahrain dhr	n/a
Frankfurt	1,065.7-1,067.3	1,068.8-1,067.3	39-38p	88-80p	Brazil cru	840.278-8,278.0
Geneva	1,065.7-1,067.3	1,068.8-1,067.3	39-38p	88-80p	Canada can	0.828-0.83c
Copenhagen	11,120.1-11,127.1	11,173.1-11,177	36c-35p	35c-34p	France fr	6.9425-7.0250
Dublin	1,065.7-1,067.3	1,068.8-1,067.3	39-38p	88-80p	Germany dm	1.93625-1.9375
Lisbon	1,065.7-1,067.3	1,068.8-1,067.3	39-38p	88-80p	Hong Kong dollar	15.8275-15.3375
Stockholm	1,065.7-1,067.3	1,068.8-1,067.3	39-38p	88-80p	India rupee	35.22-35.35
Osaka	1,065.7-1,067.3	1,068.8-1,067.3	39-38p	88-80p	Indonesia Rp	1,625.0-1,625.0
Madrid	163.80-164.80	164.30-164.80	17-23.00s	45-54.00s	Malaysia ringgit	8.2730-8.2757
Mexico	11,120.1-11,127.1	11,173.1-11,177	36c-35p	35c-34p	Mexico peso	57.00-5.000
Ottawa	11,120.1-11,127.1	11,173.1-11,177	36c-35p	35c-34p	Netherlands gld	3.2600-3.2610
Paris	9,963.8-9,948.9	9,954.1-9,948.9	87c-86p	87c-86p	Saudi Arabia riyal	n/a
Porto	1,065.7-1,067.3	1,068.8-1,067.3	39-38p	88-80p	South Africa rand	3.3569-3.3577
Rosario	2,464.2-2,464.6	2,472.1-2,471.0	0.23-0.21p	0.03-0.02p	Switzerland sfr	1.93625-1.9375
Sao Paulo	2,464.2-2,464.6	2,472.1-2,471.0	0.23-0.21p	0.03-0.02p	Taiwan dollar	4.9540-4.9565
Vernon	2,464.2-2,464.6	2,472.1-2,471.0	0.23-0.21p	0.03-0.02p	U.A.E. dirham	n/a

*Preston = ps, Discount = ds.
 Source: Reuters

Overnight	3.7500-3.7500	Rates supplied by Barclays Bank GTS and Ecolat. MONEY MARKETS
Base Rates % Clearing Banks 14	Finance Hse 18	EURO MONEY DEPOSITS % Currency Dollar 7 day 1 mth 3 mth 74-75 74-75 84-74 84-74
Discount Market Loans %		
Overnight High 14% Low 13% Week Road 14%		
Treasury Bills (Discount %)		

GOLD BULLION (Per ounce)
Open: \$377.25-377.75 Close: \$378.25-378.75
High: \$379.50-379.00 Low: \$376.25-376.75

GOLD COINS (Per coin, Ex VAT)
Britannia: \$387.00-382.00 (£196.00-199.00)
Kruggerand: \$387.00-380.00 (£191.50-193.50)
Mapleleaf (1/2oz): \$387.00-382.00 (£196.00-199.00)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES					
	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
3-ME 100					
Dec 90	2186.0	2176.0	2187.0	2163.0	5680
Jan 91	2191.0	2186.0	2194.0	2167.0	151
					Previous open interest 27706
Three Month Sterling					
Dec 90	96.95	96.93	96.92	96.85	17346
					Previous open interest 183356
US Treasury Bond					
Dec 90	94.13	94.19	94.09	94.11	1857
					Previous open interest 1594
Three month ECU					
Dec 90	86.93		86.93	86.97	90
					Previous open interest 1594

LONDON FOX			LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		
	AMT	Future	Official prices/volume previous day	London	Roskill
			(£/tonne)	cash	3 month
Cocoa	Dec 707-708	Sep 825-826			
Mar 756-755	Dec 845-843				
May 782-781	Mar 872-871				

LONDON MEAT FUTURES (kg)		MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION	
Oct 222.0-21.0	Nov 222.0-21.0	Avg futures prices of representative markets on November 21	
Nov 222.0-21.0	Dec 222.0-21.0		
Dec 222.0-21.0	Jan 222.0-21.0		
Jan 222.0-21.0	Feb 222.0-21.0		
Feb 222.0-21.0	Mar 222.0-21.0		
Mar 222.0-21.0	Apr 222.0-21.0		
Apr 222.0-21.0	May 222.0-21.0		
May 222.0-21.0	Jun 222.0-21.0		
Jun 222.0-21.0	Jul 222.0-21.0		
Jul 222.0-21.0	Aug 222.0-21.0		
Aug 222.0-21.0	Sep 222.0-21.0		
Sep 222.0-21.0	Oct 222.0-21.0		
Oct 222.0-21.0	Nov 222.0-21.0		
Nov 222.0-21.0	Dec 222.0-21.0		
Dec 222.0-21.0	Jan 222.0-21.0		
Jan 222.0-21.0	Feb 222.0-21.0		
Feb 222.0-21.0	Mar 222.0-21.0		
Mar 222.0-21.0	Apr 222.0-21.0		
Apr 222.0-21.0	May 222.0-21.0		
May 222.0-21.0	Jun 222.0-21.0		
Jun 222.0-21.0	Jul 222.0-21.0		
Jul 222.0-21.0	Aug 222.0-21.0		
Aug 222.0-21.0	Sep 222.0-21.0		
Sep 222.0-21.0	Oct 222.0-21.0		
Oct 222.0-21.0	Nov 222.0-21.0		
Nov 222.0-21.0	Dec 222.0-21.0		
Dec 222.0-21.0	Jan 222.0-21.0		
Jan 222.0-21.0	Feb 222.0-21.0		
Feb 222.0-21.0	Mar 222.0-21.0		
Mar 222.0-21.0	Apr 222.0-21.0		
Apr 222.0-21.0	May 222.0-21.0		
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Dec 222.0-21.0	Jan 222.0-21.0		
Jan 222.0-21.0	Feb 222.0-21.0		
Feb 222.0-21.0	Mar 222.0-21.0		
Mar 222.0-21.0	Apr 222.0-21.0		
Apr 222.0-21.0	May 222.0-21.0		

1. The first group of people who are not in the labor force are those who are not in the labor force because they are not in the labor force.

[illegible]

In-form Boraceva to relish stamina test Celtic Shot in tune for Kempton clash

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

By MANDARIN (MICHAEL PHILLIPS)
BORACEVA, from Toby Balding's in-form Fyfield stable, is taken to win the first running of the Tim Molony Memorial Handicap Chase at Haydock Park today.

As a past winner of the National Hunt Chase over four miles at Cheltenham when the going was soft, Boraceva certainly has what it takes to conquer the conditions on the Lancashire track this afternoon.

Although prone to jump a bit low on occasions, my selection, however, put in that clear round at Cheltenham, ought to be capable of doing likewise at Haydock.

Unlike Envoque Token and Cool Ground, Boraceva also enters the fray with a good win under his belt already this autumn. So he is most unlikely to fail on account of lack of fitness.

That success was gained at Foulwell Park where he easily accounted for Josh Gifford's useful chaser Gordon Minter, who had not been disgraced at Cheltenham in the meantime. Today, the Fyfield trainer will be relying upon Envoque Token who has been lumbered with top weight now that Yahoo and The Thinker have been withdrawn.

At his best Envoque Token is by no means harshly treated even with 11st 7lb to carry. Two seasons ago, he won the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham by beating Nick The Brief a length at level weights.

Last winter, Nick The Brief



Balding: Fyfield team enjoying good run

failed by only a neck to give Cool Ground 19lb in the Anthony Milderay, Peter Cazalet Memorial Chase at Sandown. On a line through Nick The Brief, Envoque Token has a clear chance of beating Cool Ground on this occasion, conceding only 10lb. Giving weight to an in-form and race-fit Boraceva could be a different matter though.

For Twin Oaks this will be a crucial test. Two seasons ago he looked a chaser with real potential but he went wrong and failed to cut any ice last season.

A change of stables can work wonders though and Gordon Richards certainly seem to have come up with the right answer when Twin Oaks scored in emphatic style at Ayr last week. But that race was over hurdles and it remains to be seen whether he will do the same over fences.

With the ground riding soft,

I expect Clifton Chapel, who actually ran in the Derby two years ago, to go well in the Coral Golden Hurdle qualifier.

Any horse capable of finishing third in the Cesarewitch, as he did a little under five weeks ago, is surely capable of coping with the longer distance of today's race, which will be run at a slower pace.

The handicapper has taken no chances with Clifton Chapel, who won the third of his three races over hurdles last season after being placed in the other two. But following that good run on the Flat, he could still prove too fit today for the likes of Tree Poppy, Copse And Robbers and Predominant, who have not raced lately.

As for the rest of the Haydock programme, Predominant has given the hint that he could be up to winning a race of the nature of the Kilroe Group Novices Hurdle, while William Anthony (2.30), Skipping Tim (3.0) and Porto Heli (3.30) all smack of likely winners for Martin Pipe's stable.

For today's best bet though, I am turning to Vincanton where Banker's Gossip is napped to win the Great Western Novices Hurdle and this makes it three in a row this season, following victories at Huntingdon and Cheltenham.

He had plenty in hand at Cheltenham last time and I expect him to win again even though he has to concede a considerable amount to a

CELITIC Shot put himself on target for a meeting with the mighty Desert Orchid at Kempton on Boxing Day when giving 10lb, a two-length beating to Party Politics in the Edward Hammer Memorial Handicap Chase at Haydock yesterday.

On a gloriously sunny afternoon, the Lancashire came off the best of the sport to offer. And Graham McCourt, Celtic Shot's jockey, was the man of the hour, going on to complete a double when driving Khabib to a 1½ lengths victory over the Waterbury Boy for the third time.

Watching a second season chaser attacking his fences boldly is always an exciting sight. And, apart from fiddling his second, the 1988 champion hurdler showed his class, taking advantage of a last-fence blunder by the runner-up to go clear on the flat.

Celtic Shot's price for the Gold Cup has been cut to 12-1 with both Coral and Ladbrokes, thoughts of Cheltenham glory are at present far from Celtic Shot's mind. "The King George has been the plan all season," he said. "We certainly wouldn't begin to think about the Gold Cup."

In common with his colleagues, Celtic Shot is still suffering from the effects of the long drought and the consequent firm going on the work gallop.

"We've virtually been confined to the school track," said Celtic Shot's trainer, David Nicholson, who added that Sam De Vries, well fancied for today's Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup, had worked well at Sandown yesterday morning. Khabib, twice a winner at Cheltenham last year for Andy Tinkler, is also in the line-up for the Grand Annual Handicap, set to return to chasers' headquarters on December 8 for an attack on the featured A F Budge Gold Cup.

"We were ever going to beat Waterbury Boy," said McCourt, "it had to be today as these weights and on this going."

In another dramatic affair for the BMW series qualifier, Mark Dwyer, who won the Aston Express to a head over Fraga, after a prolonged battle on the run-in. The winner is now to take on Party Politics in the final, but Josh Gifford considers that Fraga is too inexperienced for such a competitive affair.

everything is going to depend on the weather."

Rick Gascon was thrilled with the Coral performance of the runner-up, Party Politics. "It was a good performance and we're likely to go for the BMW final at Cheltenham on December 7."

Similarly, Martin Pipe was rightly excited with Bonanza Boy who despite his top weight of 12 stone only weakened from the third-last. Yesterday's top weight is now all set to go to Cheltenham on December 22 for a record-breaking attempt to win the Welsh National for the third time.

In the supporting Standard Life Handicap Chase, Waterloo Boy, the runner-up to Bonanza Boy in last season's Queen Mother Two Mile Handicap, has been placed in the line-up for the 1989 Cheltenham Chase, once again running his heart out when narrowly failing to give 24lb to the progressive Khabib.

"That will have put him spot on for the Tingle Creek at Sandown," commented David Nicholson, who added that Sam De Vries, well fancied for today's Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup, had worked well at Sandown yesterday morning.

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LUDELOW

Selections

By Mandarin
12.45 Falkland, 1.15 Banbridge, 1.45 Longhouse, 2.15 Gerami, 2.45 Cwm Gwynn, 3.15 Quinlan, 3.45 Rag Time Belle.

Going: good to firm

12.45 NORTON NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (1,828: 2m) (15 runners)
1 RABBIT 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 PO SOUL PERFORMER 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

4 COMEY 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
9 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
10 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
11 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
12 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
13 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
14 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
15 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

1.15 HUGHES HANDICAP CHASE (2,695: 2m) (2 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

1.45 GRAVEY ARMS SELLING HURDLE (1,702: 2m) (12 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
9 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
10 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
11 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
12 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

2.15 THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES CHALLENGE TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (Amateurs: £2,770: 3m) (5 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

2.45 ELTON NOVICES HURDLE (1,360: 2m) (5 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

3.15 SIDNEY PHILLIPS NOVICES CHASE (2,791: 2m) (7 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

3.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

4.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

4.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

5.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

5.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

6.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

6.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

7.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

7.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

8.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

8.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

9.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

9.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

10.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

10.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

11.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

11.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

12.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

12.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

13.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

13.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

14.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

14.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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15.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

15.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

16.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

16.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

17.15 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

17.45 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (2,022: 2m) (8 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
4 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
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6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

LUDELOW

Selections

By Mandarin
12.45 Falkland, 1.15 Banbridge, 1.45 Longhouse, 2.15 Gerami, 2.45 Cwm Gwynn, 3.15 Quinlan, 3.45 Rag Time Belle.

Going: good to firm

12.45 NORTON NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (1,828: 2m) (15 runners)
1 RABBIT 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
3 PO SOUL PERFORMER 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

4 COMEY 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
5 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
6 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
7 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
8 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
9 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
10 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
11 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
12 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
13 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
14 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
15 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt

1.15 HUGHES HANDICAP CHASE (2,695: 2m) (2 runners)
1 BOLD 16 N 11st 11lb G W McCourt
2 BOLD 16 N 11st

A testimonial to the old days

OLD Trafford had never been filled with such a rousing sense of goodwill. That 41,658 people should gather for Bryan Robson's testimonial game there on Tuesday was a remarkable tribute in itself. But the most warming feature of the wintry night took place after the party was officially over.

As Manchester United's captain conducted his lap of honour, accompanied by his colleagues and the Celtic team, dozens of well-wishers ran on to the pitch to offer their gratitude. Since the intentions of the invaders were benevolent, policemen made only half-hearted attempts to stop them.

Once Robson had taken his final bows and walked down the tunnel, his exuberant admirers prepared not to return to the terraces but to drift instead towards the end that accommodated some 10,000 Celtic supporters. Not so long ago such an ominous movement would have been regarded with fear and alarm.

As first hundreds and then thousands of United's followers swarmed on to the turf, momentarily they raised visions of Robson's friendly and festive occasion ending with wholly inappropriate animosity. What followed stunned even those who have been familiar with the famous stadium for 30 years or more. The scenes were considered unprecedented.

The two sets of supporters, one banked on the terraces and the other squeezed into a third of the playing area, staged a spontaneous and joyous concert. Exchanging scarves and other mementoes, they sang each other's chants so proficiently they might secretly have been engaged in rehearsals for weeks.

For more than 20 minutes they continued before breaking into applause and self-congratulatory orders as they departed. Denis Law, one of many observers to be struck by the expansive display of camaraderie, suggested that "it was just like the old days".

Robson himself turned back the clock when he made his first entrance of the evening. Before the kick-off he came out holding aloft the FA Cup, the trophy he collected five months ago at the end of his last competitive game for the club. He insists his next will be before Christmas.

After taking part in the closing 18

Bryan Robson's benefit

match was a tribute to

the pre-hooligan glory

days, Stuart Jones

warns to the glow that it

generated

minutes of the 3-1 defeat, he indicated that his comeback is following the planned schedule. "It was a psychological boost to be out there," he said. "I felt a bit tired but that was to be expected. Otherwise there were no problems."

There were bound to be misgivings about his recovery. Neil Webb, for instance, has yet convincingly to regain his form and especially his ability to accelerate instantly. Although his Achilles tendon was more extensively damaged, he is more than six years younger than Robson, who will be 34 in January.

The injury, inflicted during the World Cup tie against the Netherlands in June, is the eighth and most serious of his disrupted career. Previously, his most prolonged absences were in 1976 (a broken right leg) and in 1983 (a torn ankle ligaments) when he was out for 11 weeks.

The initial evidence, albeit brief, was encouraging. As though carried by his unimpaired instinct, Robson on several occasions was to be seen lurking in his usual predatory fashion in Celtic's area and, in view of his indomitable spirit, no one should be surprised if he does indeed return in a month.

Enough incentives lie ahead. United begin the defence of the FA Cup on January 5 and enter the quarter-finals of the European Cup Winners' Cup in March. He stressed that only at the end of the season, when his contract expires, will he consider which path he should then take.

Whatever his decision, he will treasure a memory worth more than the £300,000 he is expected to receive. The youngsters at Old Trafford, his own three children among them, were given a glimpse of the appealingly convivial atmosphere in which the game used to be played.



The goodwill game: Robson is the recipient of a generosity that warms up a wintry night

FOOTBALL

Allen ready to move on again

By IAN ROSS

THE presence that Clive Allen, the former England international forward, has displayed during a frustrating 16-month spell at Manchester City was yesterday when he submitted a transfer request.

Allen, who made five appearances for England between 1984 and 1988, met Peter Reid, the City manager, to discuss his future and was asked to put his request in writing.

Allen, aged 29, was bought from Bordeaux in July of last year for £1 million but will be allowed to leave Maine Road for £750,000. "I will not stand in the way of a player who does not want to play for this club," Reid said. "However, any deal will have to be right for Manchester City."

Allen, who has been involved in four £1 million transfers during his career, has also played for Queen's Park Rangers (twice), Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur.

"I have been told emphatically that there is no future for

me at Maine Road and under those circumstances I had no alternative but to ask for a transfer," Allen said. "Peter Reid agreed that it is probably the best thing for my career. It is not something I wanted to do but at my age I must consider my future."

Ian Snodgrass, the Everton defender, faces another lengthy lay off after aggravating a hamstring injury during a reserve-team game against Sheffield Wednesday at Goodison Park on Tuesday.

Snodgrass, who was on the verge of full England international honours 18 months ago, has had four operations on his damaged hamstring in the past six months and has made only one first team appearance since April.

Queen's Park Rangers should tomorrow discover how long they will be without their captain, Paul Parker. The England defender is to see a specialist about a knee injury after being carried off during a 4-0 Zenith Data Systems Cup game at Southampton.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

FA CUP: First round replay: Doncaster 1, Chester 2 (see Chester away to Leek Town, p. 38). Second round: Doncaster 1, Chester 2 (see Chester away to Leek Town, p. 38). Third round: Doncaster 1, Chester 2 (see Chester away to Leek Town, p. 38).

ZENITH DATA SYSTEMS CUP: First round: Doncaster 1, Chester 2 (see Chester away to Leek Town, p. 38). Second round: Doncaster 1, Chester 2 (see Chester away to Leek Town, p. 38). Third round: Doncaster 1, Chester 2 (see Chester away to Leek Town, p. 38).

VALUABLE CONFERENCE: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

AND O'BOOTHY LEAGUE: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

RYAN ROBSON TESTIMONIAL: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

PONTING CENTRAL LEAGUE: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

IRISH LEAGUE: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

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LANCASHIRE LEAGUE: Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1; Don 0, Walsley 1.

Rangers, beaten in their last four games, could be without all three regular central defenders when they entertain Arsenal on Saturday. Danny Maddix is recovering from a cartilage operation and Alan McDonald has an ankle injury.

Lewis McInnes, the England assistant manager, will take charge of the Barclays League side to play the Italian League in Naples on January 16 as Graham Taylor will be in the United States at an international coaching convention.

As for Villa, they have agreed to a one-month extension of Nigel Callaghan's loan period with Derby County. It was thought that after Saturday's game with Nottingham Forest, Callaghan would have had to return to Villa Park.

John Fashanu, the Wimbledon forward, has signed a

lucrative new contract which will keep him at the club for another two years.

"I'm delighted to have got this settled. It's taken a long time but it's been worth it," Fashanu said. "I love the club, I love the people and I love the atmosphere."

The former England captain, Kevin Keegan, will make a guest appearance in Peter Shilton's farewell international match at White Hart Lane on December 18. Keegan will play for 45 minutes for an England XI against France Beckenbauer's Italia '90 team.

Martin Bennett, aged 28, who has been granted a testimonial by his former club West Bromwich Albion, is planning to stage a Midland XI v England XI game at the Hawthorns next year. Bennett, forced out of League football by a back injury after 12 years with West Bromwich Albion, is playing for Worcester City in the Buzzer Homes League.

Chelsea setback, page 25

McCoy begins proving his value to Glenavon

By GEORGE ACE

RAYMOND McCoy and Stephen McBride provided ample evidence at Windsor Park on Tuesday night in the final of the TNT World Cup that they will develop into a potent strike force before the season is out (George Ace writes).

They scored Glenavon's two goals in this 2-1 win against Partick Thistle. McCoy, the Irish League's most expensive player - he was transferred from Coleraine for £24,000 two weeks ago - is still short on match fitness. It was only his second appearance for his new club, coming on as a substitute last Saturday, but he displayed touches of class.

McBride, at present in the Northern Ireland squad, missed a couple of chances to make the game safe. But he made no mistake from the penalty spot in the 69th minute for the decisive score.

Partick Thistle, who suffered their first defeat in 23 domestic matches, looked to be in control when they led 1-0 at half-time through a Cunningham goal on the half hour. But McCoy's strike in the 66th minute transformed a Lagan side and when they went 2-1 up three minutes later there was an air of predictability about the outcome.

Just over 7,000 spectators braved a bitterly cold and damp November night and were rewarded with some good football played with passion and skill on a surface made treacherous by heavy rain.

There have been less obvious reasons for the troubles of the former world champion, Steve Davis, runner-up to Stephen Hendry last year. Since that loss he is without a ranking tournament title. He has a 5-3 lead over Barry West.

Another former world champion, Joe Johnson, led the Canadian newcomer, Gary Nattale, by 7-1.

NEAL'S Fourth round: J. Johnson (Eng) leads G. Nattale (Can) 7-1; J. Williams (Wales) leads D. Morgan (Wales) 7-1; J. Williams (Wales) leads D. Morgan (Wales) 7-1; J. Williams (Wales) leads D. Morgan (Wales) 7-1.

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SNOOKER

Drago put off cue after writ

By STEVE ACTON

TONY Drago's passage towards a place in the 16 of the Stormont United Kingdom championship was interrupted in bizarre manner at the Guild Hall, Preston, last night.

Drago was 3-1 up in his fourth-round match against Jon Birch, but he failed to score in the next two frames and lost two more after being served with a writ during the first interval.

Ramsey McAllen, Drago's manager, said: "The writ concerned a considerable amount of money owed to a major bank."

It is understood that Drago got into financial difficulties while attached to a previous management company.

McAllen added: "Tony is devastated because arrangements have been made with everybody he owes money to. It seems self-defeating to me to serve a player with papers during his most important match in a long time when all his prize-money is going to pay off the writ."

There have been less obvious reasons for the troubles of the former world champion, Steve Davis, runner-up to Stephen Hendry last year. Since that loss he is without a ranking tournament title. He has a 5-3 lead over Barry West.

Another former world champion, Joe Johnson, led the Canadian newcomer, Gary Nattale, by 7-1.

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Wales are setting a strong pace in the World Cup

FROM MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, ORLANDO

MARK Mouland linked superbly with Ian Woosnam to provide Wales with an excellent start in the World Cup of Golf on the Grand Cypress course here yesterday. Mouland and Woosnam turned in 32 and 33 respectively to capture the early lead in the hot sunshine ahead of 31 rival teams including England, Ireland and Scotland.

It was a particularly encouraging start for Mouland. He collected four birdies in his first eight holes and he made not a mistake on the outward half when Woosnam, too, had four birdies. Woosnam, however, dropped a shot at the short 4th where he took three putts.

Woosnam led Wales to victory in the 1987 World Cup in Maui, when he guided the less experienced Mouland to a 32 and there was no doubt that Mouland benefited by having him as a partner.

Woosnam, who had steadfastly campaigned for the team to be kept together, helping to change the original concept which was for the players to be separated, was particularly valuable to Mouland when it came to reading the lines of putts.

Mouland responded in some style by extracting a birdie from each of the first three holes so that with Woosnam making a birdie at the 1st and 2nd, Wales swept to five under par in little more than an hour.

Indeed, it might have been six under if Woosnam had not missed from four feet at the 3rd. Mouland holed from ten feet, eight feet and 12 feet to launch his challenge for the individual trophy and Woosnam followed a birdie at the 1st with another at the next when he came out of a bunker to four feet.

Woosnam went on to make a birdie at the 7th and another with a putt of six feet for a two at

the 8th, where Mouland holed from 25 feet. In fact Mouland did not line up his putt. He waited for advice from Woosnam then holed out.

It seemed to be a successful formula, because Mouland moved to six under with birdies at the 10th and 11th and with Woosnam also making a birdie at the 11th, Wales went to ten under overall.

Scotland recovered from an indifferent start - Gordon Brand Jr dropped a shot at the first - to play the first nine in five under par. Sam Torrance, out in 32, was in sparkling form and Brand assisted by birdie at the 2nd and another from six feet at the 3rd, fought back to turn in 35.

Torrance opened his account with a birdie from five feet at the 3rd and another from 18 feet at the next. He struck a seven-iron to six feet for a two at the 8th and he holed from 25 feet on the 9th.

David Feherly galvanised the Irish challenge by following an outward half of 35 with three birdies in his next four holes. Feherly began the round with a nine-iron shot of 120 yards to three inches at the 1st. Roman Rafferty, his partner, took 36 to the turn.

Mark James started out with two birdies for England for whom Richard Buxall made a solid if unspectacular start. Payne Stewart and Jodie Mudd, of the United States, were equally slow at the start although they warmed to their task to reach the turn in four under par.

TOKYO: Japan's Professional Golfers Association will offer record prize-money of \$27 million for the 1991 tour, an eight per cent increase on this year, an official announced yesterday (Reuter agencies).

Johnson humbled by a tour de force

ON THE women's European tour, 1990 was Trish Johnson's year. Until the Solheim Cup at Lake Nona, in Orlando, Florida, everything was going swimmingly for Johnson, winner of four tournaments and No. 1 on the Woolmark order of merit.

She also won her colleagues came up against reality, in the shape of Nancy Lopez, Beth Daniel, Betsy King and, more specifically in Johnson's case, Pat Bradley.

Bradley, aged 39, a professional since 1974, took a mere 11 holes to dispose of Johnson. Admittedly it was an exceptional display, with the New Englander having seven birdies to Johnson's one. Nevertheless, the 34-year-old American epitomised the difference between the two tours. The European is full of potential, the American is cramped with achievement.

The winner of six majors, with career earnings approaching \$3.5m (£1.8m), Bradley won three times this season but was only fourth on the money list, her \$464,000 total looking like small change beside Beth Daniel's \$811,000. In fact Daniel, the player of the year, and Patty Sheehan, the runner-up with winnings of \$708,000, could very nearly afford to sponsor the European tour out of their own earnings alone.

Comparisons are invidious, however, and Johnson's haul of just over \$83,000 was not a bad return for a 34-year-old who started the year stony broke. She also won \$54,000 in the United States and was 72nd on their money list. When the Englishwoman is Bradley's age, she might have just as evitable a record.

One woman building up an unenviable, but lucrative, record of coming second is Allison Fournelle, perhaps the most consistent player on the European scene. She did win a tournament, the Variety Club Classic, but for the third season in succession was runner-up on the money list.

Helen Alfredsson, the flamboyantly competitive Swede who won the Westabix British Women's Open in a play-off with Jane Hill, of Save the Elephant and Rhino fame, moved up to third place overall, just £120 behind Nicholas. Hill, the 25-year-old Swede, has her best finish ever, handed over a few bob to the World Wildlife

PATRICIA DAVIES looks back on a momentous year for the women professionals of Europe

Fund, an organisation the Zimbabwean is passionate about supporting.

The beginning of the season was notable for the performances of Diane Barnard, a Lancastrian who proved that hard work, allied to good swing, does pay off. After starting with six finishes in the top 20 (three of them in the top 10), she won the BMW Classic at Humberthorpe, in Dunseldorf. It was the first victory of her seven-year career and one of the most popular wins of the season.

One of the most long-awaited wins was that achieved by Laura Davies in Biarritz at the end of October. It looked as though the former US and British Open champion was going to go through a season without winning anywhere for the first time since turning professional in 1985, but she was looking like small change beside Beth Daniel's \$811,000. In fact Daniel, the player of the year, and Patty Sheehan, the runner-up with winnings of \$708,000, could very nearly afford to sponsor the European tour out of their own earnings alone.

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SPORT

England's mission not impossible

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
BRISBANE

THE people of Brisbane were yesterday engaged in seasonal pursuits, watching the decorating of giant Christmas trees and discussing with dismay the barbecue, but the cricket fans were not. They were waiting for the start of the final Test match of the 1990-91 season, the opening Ashes Test match on their own doorstep at the Gabba tomorrow.

It is not that Australians in general, and Queenslanders in particular, are unaware of, or even uninterested in, the cricket. It is simply that, to a man, they expect the coming series to be won comfortably by the Australians. They might argue over the make-up of their team but the result, they claim, will be no different, whoever plays.

The same complacency was apparent here four years ago, when England's form was comparatively bad on the run-up to the first Test. As Mike Gatting, then the captain, recalled yesterday: "Australia were over-confident. The players thought they only had to turn up to win." But an England side inspired by the last of Ian

Botham's 14 Test centuries overturned the odds and expectations to win by seven wickets on their way to retaining the Ashes.

That experience left Allan Border bleak, hollow-eyed and reluctant to face the press afterwards. He was not his usual self. It was, however, a lesson painfully absorbed and Border, now aged 35 but still ambitiously competitive enough to be thinking ahead to one last tour of England in 1993, will not permit his players the same smug approach again, no matter that the circumstances seem similar, and it is next to impossible to find anyone in the country who gives the poms a chance.

Border believes that his captaincy has improved with the confidence that success can bring, but even the still-savouring taste of a 4-0 win over England last year does not relax him. He draws a sharp distinction between the England of then and now. "I think they've learnt lessons, that's basically the story. Gower's team were probably going through the motions to a certain degree against us. They thought they were going to beat us but we'd worked pretty hard on our cricket and there were probably a few areas they'd neglected. As a result of what



Ashes for one, dust for the other: Border and Lamb eye the men

happened, they had a rethink."

If the English approach is more purposeful than in 1989, the Australians have not stopped progressing over the past three years. They are worthy favourites for the series. They will probably win. But playing the first game in Brisbane is akin to starting an English series at Headingley.

A result is likely and the game can hinge on the first morning. The conditions here seem to give England their best prospect of a

win and, if they should immediately go one ahead, all things are possible.

Brisbane has never been much of a venue for stalemate. The first Test played in the city was in 1928 when England won by the little matter of 675 runs and a man named Bradman scored 18 and one on his debut and was dropped by Australia for the first and only time.

Since then, England have played 13 Tests at the Gabba, of which

only three have been drawn. In the past ten seasons on this ground, eight Tests out of ten have produced a positive result and, of these, no fewer than seven have been won by a side winning the toss and batting second. The exception was Gatting's victory in 1986, when Border inserted England and was let down by his bowlers.

Interestingly, Gatting has admitted he had no idea what to do if the coin had fallen in his favour. Lamb, who could be seen yesterday wheeling his children around in pushchairs, will need to be decisive tomorrow morning, for to take the initiative in the first two hours at the Gabba is to take giant strides towards winning the game.

During the 1980s, 85 per cent of Test wickets on this ground were taken by the quicker bowlers, a higher proportion than at any other Australian venue. The groundsman, Kevin Mitchell, has given an unapologetic guarantee that the trend will continue. "I think we tend to lean towards playing four fast bowlers here," he said. "Unless you are a quality spinner, you don't get much out of this track. It is a result pitch and only good players will succeed on it."

Given this broadcast of hints, one might assume that both teams would follow Mitchell's advice and ignore spin. Up to last night, however, there was still a possibility that one side, if not both sides, would include a slow bowler. Australia have Steve Waugh as a fourth seamer and the presence of Greg Matthews would lengthen their batting, while there was some surprising indication that, in England's case, the slow bowler could be Tufnell rather than Hemmings.

Tufnell does not have the facility for prolonged containment, which has won Hemmings most of his caps, but he is an attacking bowler and an imaginative one who, so the theory goes, is far more likely to trouble the Australian batting. To play him would be a gamble, however, and the greater likelihood is that England will go in with Lewis and Small in support of Malcolm's pace and Fraser's miserly control.

It is England's batting which gives greater cause for concern and, on pre-Test form, the thought of it being subjected to Alderman and Reid at 11am tomorrow on a pitch starting green and helpful is enough to send all patriots reaching for the tranquillisers.

At net practice yesterday, England were joined by Graeme Hick

and the management would doubtless have given much to advance his eligibility five months and pick him tomorrow. As this would not meet with the total approval of the Australians, England should exercise the next best option and promote Smith to No. 3, thus creating more stability high in the order and allowing Gower more indulgence at No. 5. There is, realistically, nothing to be done about the opening pair, of whom Atherton seems far more likely than Larkins to emerge from purgatory. Atherton has class, scope and years on his side; Larkins has begun to bat increasingly like a desperate man, an impression which was not remotely dispelled during a full-scale middle practice.

Both as an attacking and a protective measure, England must surely bowl first, given the chance. If they do, there is more than an outside possibility that the Australians will be obliged to regard this series as very much more competitive than they had imagined.

My England 12 would be Lamb (captain), Atherton, Larkins, Smith, Gower, Stewart, Lewis, Russell, Small, Fraser, Tufnell and Malcolm.

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Pakistan's task, page 38

Under orders for Derby switch to Saturday in 1993

By RICHARD EVANS

THE Derby, the most famous flat race in the world, stands a real chance of being run on Saturday, rather than Wednesday, from 1993.

Tim Neligan, managing director of United Racecourses which runs Epsom where the blue riband of the turf is staged, said yesterday: "It is a real possibility. I would like to transfer the race to Saturday. The Derby is one of two or three significant national events and it would seem to be sensible to have it on a Saturday when the maximum number of people could enjoy it directly on course, or indirectly through television."

Until now it has been feared that royal protocol could prevent a switch from the traditional mid-week venue, as the possibility of a clash with the Trooping the Colour would stop the Queen from attending. This now appears unlikely, although the Epsom authorities will be anxious to make sure that the monarch is happy to attend the Derby on Saturday rather than on a Wednesday.

The plan to run the Derby on a Saturday is part of United

Racecourses's strategy to guarantee that Britain's premier classic race remains head and shoulders above other international races in terms of prestige. Although prize-money for the race, won this year by Quest For Fame, was £600,000, the Derby has plummeted to thirtieth place in international racing's pecking order, based on prize-money.

If the radical change is approved by the board of United Racecourses, the current four-day Derby meeting is likely to be fitted into three days with the Oaks, at present staged on Saturday, being run on the opening Thursday.

The increase in betting turnover from a Derby staged on Saturday would be £15 million, according to Lord Wyatt of Wootton Bassett, chairman of the Tote, with an extra £250,000 finding its way to racecourses and prize-money via the levy.

Domestic and international television rights would also increase in value dramatically. They would be worth "a seven-figure sum", according to Neligan. Until now foreign broadcasting of the race on

Wednesday has been of limited appeal to audiences in the United States, Hong Kong and Japan, but a Saturday Derby would transform the race's international viewing appeal. Interestingly, Channel 4's racing contract with six racecourses, including Epsom, comes up for renegotiation at the end of 1991.

Apart from switching the day of the race, United Racecourses has submitted a plan to the Jockey Club aimed at drastically altering the entry procedures for the Derby and raising extra prize-money. Entries this year, costing £5,000, did not have to be made until 15 weeks before the June race, but Neligan and his colleagues want initial entries to be made by breeders in the April before a yearling is sold, let alone appears on racecourse.

The five-stage entry plan would involve breeders paying a £250 fee pre-sale, and owners paying £250 at the beginning of the horse's two-year-old career, and a further £4,500, spread between the start of its three-year-old career, completion of Derby trials and five days before the race. Supplementary entries at the five-day stage would cost £100,000.

The extra cash gained by the proposed entry scheme would result in prize-money for the 1993 Derby being raised to £1 million.

Although Epsom's scheme for Derby entries, to be made more than two years in advance of the race, is not dissimilar to the rules which applied decades ago, the package is far from certain to be approved when it is discussed by the Jockey Club on December 10.

Neligan remains determined to safeguard the future of what he regards as a vital part of Britain's heritage. "We feel the Derby is unique. It transcends horse racing and is part of Britain. If you went out into Oxford Street now it is something everybody would know about. I want to sustain the Derby for our children and grandchildren as the most famous race in the world. It would be unforgivable if we didn't."

Sponsor pulls out — page 36



Happy champion: Chris Eubank displays his WBO belt during a parade in his honour

Eubank lining up next rival

CHRIS Eubank, the new World Boxing Organisation champion, expects to announce his first defence of the title within the next seven days. But one date definitely in his diary is his wedding day, December 24.

Eubank proposed to his girlfriend, Karen, via television, shortly after stopping Nigel Benn in the ninth round of their encounter at the NEC, Birmingham, on Sunday.

Karen, who has a son, aged 14 months, by Eubank, is expecting another child. "I did not know he would propose to me," Karen said. "He was very emotional and I was crying. Chris didn't know I

was pregnant before the fight. I kept it a secret from him because I didn't want to give him more to think about. But when I told him he could not really say much."

Eubank, unbeaten in 25 contests, is likely to face either Dennis Milton, the WBO No. 1 challenger, or Steve Collins, in his first defence. "We will know by next week," Barry Hearn said, the Matchroom promoter may try to stage the bout in Eubank's home town of Brighton.

"What we want to do is get maximum American exposure for Chris and in a perfect world we could get American TV and put the fight on in Brighton," Hearn said. "But we will not take less money." Eubank was reluctant to plan a rematch after the Benn bout, but yesterday he refused to rule out a second meeting with "The Dark Destroyer".

"I will fight Benn again. But it will have to take place in a bigger arena, one that would hold 20,000 or more." Eubank also denied he had ruled out a possible meeting with Michael Nunn, the International Boxing Federation champion.

"Nunn is a southpaw and a liability," Eubank said. "But life is a liability and there are times when you have to take risks."

End to dispute over future of Ryder Cup

FROM MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, ORLANDO

THE Ryder Cup dispute that led to Bernard Gallacher offering his resignation as captain has been settled, with Europe's leading professionals winning a say in the organisation of the biennial match with the United States.

A joint statement issued by the PGA European Tour and the Professional Golfers' Association (PGA) stressed that the long-term future of the Ryder Cup, which is sponsored by Johnnie Walker, is safeguarded and strengthened under the agreement.

It brings an abrupt and amicable end to three years of arguing that threatened the future of the Ryder Cup and tarnished the image of the competition, which started in 1927. The 1991 match, which will now take place at the Ocean Course at Kiawah Island, South Carolina, from September 27 to 29.

In effect, the two governing bodies will be equal partners, sharing the administration and the benefits of the Ryder Cup. The PGA will have the first claim on administrative expenses, which will be no less than £750,000, and the PGA European Tour will retain television and other media rights.

The deal is one from which the PGA European Tour refused to bend, and the PGA would appear to have climbed down, especially as it was initially offered a share of the Volvo PGA Championship, which was subsequently withdrawn. It is impossible to put a figure on what that might have produced financially.

If the PGA had not agreed to shake hands after a meeting almost two weeks ago, it is conceivable that Ken Schofield, the executive director of the PGA European Tour, would have refused to return to the bargaining table. He had been given a mandate on September 4 to act in the best interests of his players, and it is understood that the PGA consistently changed proposals based on agreement reached around the table.

The PGA European Tour could have opened a dialogue with the US PGA Tour with regard to initiating a new match between the Tours. It would have ended tradition, and caused widespread dismay among golf's aficionados, but it would have been a way forward for the European Tour. It remains to be seen if the PGA of America, custodi-

ans of the Ryder Cup for the United States, will offer the US PGA Tour a financial interest in the competition. It is understood that the US PGA Tour had been eagerly monitoring the situation.

Neil Coles, chairman of the PGA European Tour board of directors, said: "The considerable time and effort that has gone into reaching this permanent agreement properly reflects the respect the Tour's members hold for the Ryder Cup and their desire to play a major role, on and off the course, in safeguarding the matches."

The two bodies have agreed that in the absence of a unanimous decision on Ryder Cup venues in Europe, the PGA European Tour and the PGA will have the final choice in alternate years, beginning after the 1993 match at The Belfry. The PGA European Tour has already indicated its preference for Spain in 1997, although that is some way from being decided.

The PGA was concerned that in the case of deadlock the competition would, through another clause, be killed for four years. Rather than erase that clause it seemed prudent to lengthen the period, so encouraging both bodies to reach agreement on any subject.

John Lindsey, the executive director of the PGA, said: "We've safeguarded the PGA's involvement for evermore and both sides' lawyers are working towards a properly structured formal agreement. The 1993 match will be run in much the same way as previous Ryder Cups, but thereafter we will be in uncharted waters, and it may be that a limited company will need to be set up."

"The major issues such as venue, TV and money are all contractually agreed and I would hope that there will be no reason for us to disagree on other matters."

Since last December, when he was appointed successor to Tony Jacklin, Gallacher has waited for agreement to be reached. He even offered to resign to help the matches go ahead in the proper spirit. Gallacher, who believes he has not been able to enjoy the early months of his captaincy, said that it has been the worst year of his life.

World Cup, page 39

Stay exactly where you are. Don't move a muscle.

If you have an itch, don't scratch it.

If you sneeze, let your nose run.

Don't blink. Don't rub your eyes.

Not even when they're sore and weeping.

If you get cramp, try to ignore the pain.

You can't speak, just make moaning noises.

You can't even go to the toilet unless someone takes you.

There's only one thing you can do. Think.

And wonder how much more you'll have to take.

This torture is called Motor Neurone Disease. MND is a fatal, muscle-wasting condition which is killing 6,000 people in Britain as you read this. Now you can put your hand in your pocket.

I enclose a donation to: The Motor Neurone Disease Association, PO Box 246, Northampton NN1 2PR.
I enclose £200 □ £100 □ £50 □ £20 □ Other £ or debit my account □ Visa □ Access

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Every donation will be acknowledged most gratefully and we promise to keep you informed about our work. Tel. helpline for patients and carers: 0800 62 62 62. Reg. charity No. 294354.

MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE

French clubs and players are tainted by scandal

AS FRENCH football sinks deeper into the mire of destructive financial scandals, scarcely a day seems to pass without some fresh sensation for the public. Earlier this week, armed police interrupted a training session of Marseilles, easily France's most successful club, and hauled away three leading players for interrogation about a fraud allegedly involving hefty under-the-table payments while they were on Toulon's books.

After 11 hours of rigorous questioning, the investigating magistrate released Pascal Olmeta, Bernard Casani and Bernard Pardo — the first two French internationals — with orders to appear again next month.

A day later, the general manager of the club and its financial director were called before the inspectors of

Football in France, PHILIP JACOBSON reports, is being rocked by allegations of financial impropriety that are bringing increased police involvement into the game.

The Marseilles fraud squad for a long and uncomfortable session. No dossier has yet been opened on their cases, but few local observers expect this to be the end of the affair.

Next, the spotlight switched to Toulon, where the club's general manager and financial director are among seven people facing charges arising from the alleged existence of a huge slush fund for making illegal and untaxed payments for players, including the "Marseilles Three".

According to French press reports, new arrests can be expected following the seizure of a mass of documents from club files. The

police seem particularly interested in looking into Toulon's transfer deals.

At about the same time, a long-running saga of looming bankruptcy and the alleged cooking of books at Bordeaux boiled over when the two sons of Claude Bez, the club's dominating president, were ordered to present themselves at police headquarters.

Official sources said later that they were interrogated on matters concerning the charges brought against Claude Bez last month of "abuse of confidence, forgery and use of forged documents" arising from discrepancies of some £1.5 million in the accounts.

Behind the ever-expanding web of corruption, numbered Swiss bank accounts and shady middle-men that is riveting the French

public, football supporters or not, some vicious personal feuds are being fought out.

Claude Bez has long been at daggers drawn with Bernard Tapie, the millionaire businessman-politician who is president of Marseilles (and recent purchaser of the Adidas sportswear group).

Each accuses the other of bribing referees, fixing matches and a range of financial misdeeds that could keep investigators busy for years.

Then there is Jean-Claude Darmon, promotions director of the French Football Federation, alias "Monsieur Publicity", a man whose inside knowledge of the financial complexities of the game here is said to be unrivalled. As well it might be. Darmon's own advertis-

ing interests represent over half the country's 20 first division clubs and his money-raising skills have put close on £100 million into the federation's reserves.

Last weekend, "Monsieur Pub" joined French football's lengthening casualty list, charged with fraud and other offences involving the Toulon club. The federation's president agreed that if all the allegations made against Darmon are true, the effect on the game would be "catastrophic".

Many observers think the damage has already been done.

To judge by the cover story on "Football's dirty money networks" in the latest edition of the leading news magazine, *L'Express*, there are plenty of sensations still to come.